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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE OIL PROJECT
PUBLIC MEETING
* * *
Ronald Reagan Building
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.
Friday, October 7, 2011
The public meeting commenced at 10:00
a.m., Maryruth Coleman and Jim Steele, presiding
officers.

1 P R O C E E D I N G

2 MR. STEELE: It's now just after 10
3 o'clock so let's go ahead and get started. My name
4 is Jim Steele. I'm from the Bureau of Oceans,
5 Environment and International Environmental and
6 Scientific Affairs at the U.S. Department of State.
7 My colleague, Maryruth Coleman is from the State
8 Department's Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs.

9 We're here today to listen to your
10 comments regarding the national interest
11 determination for the proposed Keystone XL pipeline.

12 The State Department is committed to a
13 transparent, impartial, and rigorous process to
14 determine whether the proposed Keystone XL pipeline
15 project is in the national interest.

16 As part of the national interest
17 determination process, the Department is following a
18 process that is defined by law and executive order.
19 That includes input from eight federal agencies,
20 experts in relevant subjects, and the public.

21 This broader evaluation of the application
22 extends beyond environmental impact. It takes into

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1 account economic, energy security, foreign policy,
2 and other relevant issues.

3 Last week the State Department held eight
4 public meetings in the states through which the
5 pipeline would run, plus this one today in
6 Washington, D.C., in order to hear as many views as
7 possible.

8 Thousands of Americans participated and
9 those that didn't have the opportunity to speak can
10 submit written comments that will become part of the
11 official record, until October 9th at midnight.

12 We have also met with people representing
13 divergent views, including NGO's, civil society
14 organizations, other interest groups, Native
15 Americans, and other interested parties.

16 On behalf of the Department of State, we
17 would like to thank you for joining us at this public
18 meeting. We recognize this is an important issue and
19 we value your input.

20 As I said, the purpose of this meeting is
21 to provide a venue for members of the public to
22 express their views on whether issuing a Presidential
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1 Permit for the proposed Keystone XL pipeline is in
2 the national interest. To focus time and attention
3 on your comments, we will be listening to you today
4 rather than answering questions.

5 We appreciate the interest of everybody in
6 this room to take the time to share your perspective
7 on this issue. We take your comments seriously and
8 we will consider them carefully.

9 Given the interest in this issue, it may
10 not be possible for everyone in attendance to speak.
11 If you do not have the opportunity you can provide
12 your written comments on the back of the sheet of
13 paper that you got when you came in and you can leave
14 those comments with us here at the back of the room.

15 There is a table right over there to
16 collect your comments, or you can submit your written
17 comments by mail, by fax, by email, or online. I
18 reiterate, we need to have those comments by midnight
19 on October 9th.

20 We understand that there are strong views
21 and feelings about this issue. This meeting provides
22 an opportunity for you to express your views, but we
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1 ask you to respect the rules that we have established
2 so that we can hear from as many of you as possible.

3 We ask that you are fair and respectful to
4 everyone who has taken the time to come to this
5 public meeting to present his or her views.

6 Before we begin, we would like to describe
7 the Department of State's role in the presidential
8 permitting process and further to lay out the
9 groundrules for this particular meeting.

10 MS. COLEMAN: Good morning. In September
11 2008, TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP filed an
12 application for a Presidential Permit for the
13 proposed Keystone XL pipeline.

14 Executive Order 13337, signed on April 30,
15 2004, delegates to the Department of State the
16 authority to issue a Presidential Permit for
17 facilities such as the Keystone XL pipeline that
18 cross the U.S. border.

19 In considering a permit, the Department of
20 State determines whether the border crossing is in
21 the U.S. national interest. Taking into account
22 environmental and safety issues, as well as energy

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1 security, foreign policy, and social and economic
2 matters.

3 In addition to the Executive Order, the
4 Department of State determined, because of the
5 proposed pipeline's importance, that it would
6 evaluate the pipeline's possible environmental and
7 safety impacts consistent with the National
8 Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA.

9 As a consequence, the State Department
10 prepared an Environmental Impact Statement consistent
11 with NEPA, to evaluate the proposed pipeline's
12 potential environmental and safety impacts.

13 In preparing the Environmental Impact
14 Statement, over the past 2-1/2 years we have
15 conducted some 41 public meetings along the pipeline
16 route and in Washington, D.C., to gather public
17 comments and to develop the scope and draft of an EIS
18 or impact statement.

19 On August 26, we released the Final
20 Environmental Impact Statement, which addresses the
21 more than 250,000 comments from the public comment
22 period. The Final Environmental Impact Study is just
23

1 one factor considered in the review process. It does
2 not represent a final decision on the permit
3 application.

4 Now, as we move into the national interest
5 determination, the Department of State is compiling
6 additional information if the proposed Keystone XL
7 pipeline is in the U.S. national interest and to
8 decide whether or not to grant the permit. This
9 meeting is part of that effort.

10 MR. STEELE: In order to maximize public
11 participation and to be fair to all meeting
12 participants, we ask that you abide by these rules of
13 order. We hope to have the opportunity to listen to
14 everyone who wishes to speak, but that may not
15 happen. To make it a little bit more likely, we're
16 going to have to allow, or give you a maximum amount
17 of time of three minutes, so please limit your
18 comments to three minutes.

19 At the conclusion of that three minutes,
20 you will see a sign that says "thank you." At that
21 point in time, please do wrap up your comments so
22 that we can hear from as many people as possible.

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1 And again, certainly if you don't have
2 time to finish your comments or if you cannot give
3 your comments during the meeting, please do leave
4 written comments at the table or this sheet of
5 information that you got when you came in also
6 provides the addresses by mail, online or email or
7 fax for you to submit your comments.

8 We will consider all such comments whether
9 we hear them orally or whether we get them in written
10 form. Speakers will make their comments on a first
11 come/first served basis by assigned number, having
12 personally signed in personally at the door.

13 After a speaker ends the next number and
14 name will be called. And it's possible that we will
15 call up to 4 speakers at a time just to kind of make
16 it a little bit quicker. We can't really anticipate
17 exactly how long each person is going to speak, so
18 it's not possible for us to say, oh yes, you will be
19 up in one hour. So you need to hear and you need to
20 pay attention to where we are in the order.

21 When your number is called, we ask that
22 you come to the microphone, that you state your name

1 and affiliation and that you spell your last name
2 also please for the court reporter and then offer
3 your comments.

4 Again, as you speak, you will be timed for
5 the three minute interval. A card will be displayed
6 when you have one minute remaining and then again
7 when your time is up. We do ask that you finish your
8 comments in the allotted time. As I noted, all
9 comments made here will be transcribed, will be
10 recorded and transcribed by a court reporter and they
11 will become part of our process of determining this.

12 Written comments again accepted until
13 midnight on October 9th. Department of State
14 officials are here to listen to your comments so that
15 they can be considered. So this is not a question
16 and answer or an information session.

17 We understand there are strong views on
18 this issue and we ask that in fairness to everyone
19 concerned, those who choose to speak, be allowed to
20 do so without interruption. We request further that
21 no displays or signs be posted in the room.

22 Please keep your remarks to three minutes

1 and please be respectful of other speakers and I
2 would ask also that you turn your cell phones off or
3 put them to the silent setting.

4 Our plan is to conclude this meeting at
5 2:00 p.m. I wish to stress once again that the
6 Department of State has not made a decision on this
7 matter. This meeting is part of the process that
8 will contribute to that.

9 We thank you for your interest. We thank
10 you for coming to this meeting. One more reminder,
11 the Fire Marshall has noted that it would be
12 appreciated if people, rather than standing on the
13 back, go ahead and find a seat and sit down -- remain
14 seated if at all possible. I see most people are
15 doing that, so thank you very much.

16 Again thank you for your interest, thank
17 you for coming to this meeting, we'd like to start
18 the proceedings with the first two speakers. I'll go
19 ahead and call four speakers. #1, Sarah Hodgdon, #2
20 is Mara Collie, #3 is Ethan Muss, and #4 is Jennifer
21 Hosterman. Please.

22 MS. HODGDON: Good morning, my name is

23

1 Sarah Hodgdon. I'm the Director of Conservation for
2 the Sierra Club, the nation's largest environmental
3 grassroots organization.

4 The Sierra Club and our 1.4 million
5 members and supporters do not believe the Keystone XL
6 tar sands pipeline is in the national interest.
7 Working with an incredibly diverse and broad
8 coalition of groups across the United States and
9 Canada, we've reviewed the final environmental
10 assessment, conducted by the State Department.

11 We've looked into TransCanada's record and
12 we've listened to thousands of community member,
13 farmers and ranchers from across the Midwest and
14 Texas, all to come to the same conclusion time and
15 time again, that the Keystone XL tar sands pipeline
16 is a bad deal for America.

17 The sole purpose of this pipeline is to
18 deliver profits to a foreign oil company,
19 TransCanada. Even Canadians have rejected this
20 pipeline project, citing the massive environmental
21 and public health risks it poses.

22 But TransCanada is asking U.S. ranchers,
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1 farmers, and landowners to shoulder the burden so
2 that they can pump their dirty tar sands through the
3 American heartland. It is simply not in our national
4 interest to ask America landowners and business
5 owners to forfeit their property to a foreign company
6 while bearing the risks of toxic oil spills onto
7 precious farmland and into the drinking water source
8 for millions of Americans.

9 The opposition to Keystone XL is strong
10 and continues to grow and for good reason.
11 TransCanada pipeline would create more toxic fumes
12 and pollution, from the refining process of this
13 heavy and highly corrosive oil and the risks of a
14 pipeline burst or spill into drinking water sources
15 and onto farmland are not a matter of if, but when.

16 The Americans who live along the proposed
17 pipeline route understand what TransCanada's pipeline
18 would do to their communities. And not surprisingly,
19 they are vehemently opposed.

20 We've heard Nebraska Senators consistently
21 criticize the pipeline and the Republican Governor of
22 Nebraska has asked the President to reject the permit

1 outright.

2 Sierra Club members have sent hundreds of
3 thousands of comments to the State Department, urging
4 you to reject this permit for this dirty, dangerous
5 and unnecessary pipeline.

6 Dollar for dollar, investments in
7 renewable energy jobs create more jobs in investments
8 in fossil fuel infrastructure. Those are the types
9 of investments that we should be making and
10 promoting. We have the technologies today to start
11 reducing our dependence on oil, deepening our
12 dependence on the dirtiest source of oil on the
13 planet is simply not in the national interest.

14 MS. COLLIE: Hi, and thanks to the State
15 Department for hosting this hearing. My name is
16 Maura Cowley, I'm a Co-Director at Energy Action
17 Coalition. We are at 200,000 young voters as our
18 members, young people across this country who are
19 vehemently in opposition to expansion of the Keystone
20 XL pipeline and are asking President Obama to
21 intervene and immediately revoke -- or deny the
22 presidential permit.

23

1 We represent 50 organizations all of whom
2 work with young people in climate and energy issues
3 and one in particular, the Indigenous Environmental
4 Network whose young people every day are facing the
5 horrific impacts of oil sands and oil drilling and
6 building of this pipeline in their communities and
7 they are sick and they are dying because of it.

8 We appreciate that you say that the State
9 Department hasn't made a decision yet on this issue,
10 but in fact, we don't believe you. E-mails detail a
11 relationship between TransCanada and the State
12 Department that in fact suggests that the two might
13 be actually collaborating on lobby efforts and we
14 think the Department of Justice needs to intervene
15 immediately.

16 (Applause.)

17 TransCanada has already broken the law in
18 this process, their Lobbyist Paul Elliott is not
19 currently registered to represent an international
20 corporation, but in fact, that is what he is doing
21 and once again we would like the Department of
22 Justice to intervene and immediately investigate

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1 that.

2 TransCanada and the State Department are
3 lying to the American public right now by claiming
4 that this is a matter of energy independence, when in
5 fact we know that Keystone XL is an export pipeline.

6 Valero, a key customer of the Keystone XL
7 pipeline has already detailed an export strategy to
8 its investors. This is other major stakeholders that
9 will benefit from a profit perspective from this,
10 include Royal Dutch Shell and the Saudi Arabian
11 government.

12 So this in fact, another project to pump
13 the profits of the Middle East, and we should pretend
14 that there is nothing else, so stop making claims
15 that it is anything different and it will not help
16 the American economy.

17 Fuel prices will spike in 15 states
18 according to the Cornell University Global Labor
19 Institute, because of this pipeline.

20 Beyond that, this is a moral issue for the
21 State Department to consider. Right now, you are
22 faced with a choice, will you stand up and work with

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1 the American people to protect our heartland from
2 pollution, to ensure healthcare cost along the
3 pipeline don't spike, to ensure that our future isn't
4 compromise, or will you allow the cronyism that is
5 apparently rampant in the State Department to
6 continue by siding with big oil, siding with
7 TransCanada and allowing the lies of TransCanada to
8 be perpetuated?

9 Once again we are asking President Obama
10 to intervene immediately and deny the pipeline.

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. NUSS: My name is Ethan Nuss with the
13 Energy Action Coalition and every day I wake up and
14 work for a vision in this country of 100% clean
15 energy economy that will create jobs for my
16 generation when my generation is facing the largest
17 unemployment since the great depression.

18 Make this country a leader in clean energy
19 technology that we can export across the world and
20 create jobs here at home. I stood in line 14 hours
21 to testify today and a month ago I sacrificed my
22 civil liberties to participate in a peaceful setting

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1 in front of the White House and was arrested for
2 those actions.

3 I did this because my future is at stake.
4 The future of my generation rests with the decision
5 of today's State Department. This pipeline will be
6 cut across indigenous lands and through my home state
7 of Kansas, and I can't stand it. This is not within
8 the national interest of the United States.

9 One, because of the threat of global
10 climate change. The world's leading climate
11 scientist has said that if we tapped tar sands oil
12 and burn it, it will be "game over" for the global
13 climate.

14 When the U.S. Military itself talks about
15 global climate change being the single greatest
16 threat to our national security, even above that of
17 terrorism? We simply cannot allow this to happen and
18 have this threat.

19 Second, because of the health impacts.
20 Last year alone, in the current Keystone pipeline 14
21 leaks have already happened? Because of the health
22 impacts of my friends living in an indigenous
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1 communities and Mara said are getting sick and dying,
2 I can't watch it happen any longer.

3 And because we are being misinformed about
4 the jobs. The Cornell Labor Institute did a recent
5 study saying that the jobs we are promised will only
6 come to a figure of about 3,000 because the current
7 estimates do not calculate for factors such as the
8 increase in gas prices that we know we will see, the
9 risk of oil spills, and the detrimental health
10 effects on our local communities.

11 And in fact, the only local jobs we will
12 actually see from this pipeline will be between 500
13 and 700. Local communities will be bearing all of
14 the environmental risks, all of the health risks, and
15 getting none of the jobs.

16 What we have here is a foreign company
17 using foreign materials to pump foreign oil through
18 America's heartland when we can do better with a home
19 grown vision of American energy, good union paying
20 jobs in our steel mills making wind turbines across
21 the Unites States and creating those millions of jobs
22 for my generation that we need.

23

1 (Applause.)

2 We can do it, we can make United States a
3 global leader. We can end our addiction to oil. It
4 starts here, it starts today and it starts with your
5 decision by firmly coming out against and rejecting
6 the Keystone Xl pipeline.

7 (Applause.)

8 MS. HOSTERMAN: Good morning and thank
9 you. Good morning ladies and gentlemen. My name is
10 Jennifer Hosterman. I am the Mayor of Pleasanton,
11 California and I, along with fellow mayors John
12 Dickert of Racine, Wisconsin and Frank Cownie of Des
13 Moines, Iowa, have started gathering names and
14 signing on mayors in support of saying no to this
15 dirty pipeline.

16 Why do mayors care? Because we are on the
17 ground and we're directly responsible for our
18 constituents, for our citizens, for our Americans.

19 My day often starts with consoling a
20 family whose son was killed in Afghanistan because of
21 our reliance on foreign oil. My day then goes on to
22 working with safety, fire, police, ensuring that

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1 health and safety of my community, all the while
2 addressing pension reform in a real way without
3 beating people up.

4 My day continues with making sure the
5 trash gets picked up and the pot holes get filled.
6 And at the end of the day, at the grocery store on
7 isle 6, I have people point their finger at me and
8 say Mayor what are you doing about this problem?

9 What are you doing about this? What are
10 you going to do to protect our natural resources?
11 What are you going to do as director of the Bay Area
12 Air Quality Management District to clean up our air
13 in the Bay Area and in the state of California and
14 this country?

15 What are you going to do as co-chair of
16 the Mayor's Water Council for the United States
17 Conference of Mayors to preserve our water, our
18 drinking water, and the water that we use to grow our
19 food?

20 That's my job and I will tell you that as
21 of late last night, we have 50 mayors who had signed
22 on to a letter, which we will be sending after we

1 gather a few hundred more, which is not going to be
2 too difficult over the coming couple of weeks, to ask
3 the President of the United States to deny this
4 permit.

5 (Applause.)

6 Now we have a lot of people in this room
7 who need work. We need to create jobs in this
8 country and the way to create jobs is by passing the
9 American Jobs Act.

10 (Applause.)

11 We need to pour money into infrastructure
12 improvements in this country so we can put people to
13 work in good paying, long term jobs. That's my
14 message, thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 MR. STEELE: Thank you. I'd like to call
17 please #5, Debra White Plume, #6, Thomas Meyer, #7,
18 Betty Campbell, and #8, Ruth Kaplan, please. And you
19 can use this other podium, if you wish, whichever one
20 is closer to you, please.

21 MS. WHITE PLUME: Good morning. My name
22 is Debra White Plume, I am Ogallala Lakota from Pine

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1 Ridge Reservation, the Great Lakota Nation.

2 I am here today to tell President Obama
3 the Great White Father and the Government of the
4 United States of America that we do not want this
5 pipeline in our 1868 Ft. Laramie Treaty Territory,
6 the treaty that was ratified by the United States
7 Congress, a legal, binding international document of
8 law.

9 We have, under the United Nations the
10 rights of the indigenous people which requires free
11 prior informed consent before any mining or
12 desecration of lands, air, water, people, can occur
13 in our territory. We do not give free prior informed
14 consent for TransCanada to bring this pipeline
15 through our beloved Mother Earth in our area of this
16 country.

17 This pipeline will cross our water
18 pipeline on the Pine Ridge Reservation, Lower Brule
19 Reservation, Rosebud Reservation. These are the only
20 Lakota people on Mother Earth. We have no island
21 where we can send for more Lakota people if our
22 people are killed off by this oil contaminating our

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1 only drinking water source.

2 This pipeline will cross hundreds of
3 surface water, river water. We believe that it is
4 against Mother Earth, it is against our sacred water.
5 We cannot have this pipeline in our territory. We
6 are human beings, the two legged, we live with the
7 four legged, the winged, the standing silent nation,
8 the plants, we are part of the environment. There
9 are no lines separating human beings from the
10 environment.

11 I stand here today to ask the Great White
12 Father to say no to this pipeline, for him to defend
13 our people, defend our water, defend our land, defend
14 our animals and our birds and our plants.

15 Say no to this pipeline that is killing
16 the people where the oil comes from of the First
17 Nations in Canada. This is genocide for First
18 Nation's people. The American people should not have
19 to choose between jobs and wrecking the environment
20 forever for our seven coming generations.

21 So I ask you all to remember the words
22 Mitakuye Oyasin, it means all my relations. We are

1 all related on Mother Earth. We all need to stand
2 together for Mother Earth now because Mother Earth is
3 crying. Our Lakota prophesy tells us, when Mother
4 Earth cries, we stand up and we fight for her, she
5 will die and we will die with her.

6 So I ask everyone to remember, crying
7 earth rise up, rise up with Mother Earth, rise up and
8 say no, no to this pipeline, no to death, no, no, no,
9 no.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR. STEELE: Thomas Meyer please.

12 MR. MEYER: My name is Thomas Meyer. I'm
13 a Sophomore at American University here in
14 Washington, DC. I have with me the signatures of 422
15 American University students, representing 43 states,
16 the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

17 They have signed the petition stating
18 their opposition to the construction of the Keystone
19 XL pipeline and their view that the pipeline is not
20 in our national interest. The petition reads:

21 We strongly oppose the construction of the
22 Keystone XL pipeline and urge the Department of State

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1 and President Obama to deny TransCanada a
2 presidential permit for this project.

3 As young people from all around the United
4 States, we expect our leaders to stand up for a
5 livable future. United States needs to start showing
6 some real climate leadership by recognizing the facts
7 of the tar sands and the Keystone XL pipeline.

8 Tar sands oil is far dirtier than other
9 types of oil and the risks involved in transporting
10 it across our country are outweighed only by the
11 global consequences of burning it. Please say no to
12 the tar sands and say no to the Keystone XL pipeline.
13 Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 Good morning. Thank you for this
16 opportunity. I realize I am in a minority here, but
17 I support the Keystone XL pipeline.

18 (Applause.)

19 MS. CAMPBELL: I am from the Ft. Belknap
20 Indian Reservation in North Central Montana where I
21 was born, 76 years ago. My husband and I have been
22 ranching since 1964. I still am an active cattle

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1 rancher, I raise long horn cattle and Angus and a few
2 quarter horses.

3 I still do my own irrigating and I put up
4 my own hay to winter my cattle. I was in education
5 for 35 years. The first 20 years I taught on and off
6 the reservation, the last 15 of those 35 years I was
7 elementary school principal in the Hays/Lodge Pole
8 public school on the reservation.

9 Today I am, in addition to ranching, I am
10 a director on the Big Flat Electric Cooperative Board
11 where I served for 13 years, the majority of that
12 time as Secretary/Treasurer of that Board.

13 My husband Bud was a Native American, a
14 proud Native American. He enlisted in the army when
15 he was barely 17 years old. Of course he wasn't my
16 husband then, he did his basic training in the
17 Philippines and he was there when WWII started.

18 After months of jungle fighting he was
19 captured on the Bataan Peninsula on April 9, 1942 and
20 he spent the next three and a half years in captivity
21 in Japanese prison camps.

22 They were starved, beaten, worked as slave
23

1 labor, they didn't know anyone even knew where they
2 were if they were alive or dead, but Bud never lost
3 his faith in America or his love for America.

4 This Keystone pipeline is a good project
5 for America. This is the America that Bud fought
6 for, believed in, and loved. The pipeline over its
7 lifetime will provide billions of dollars in tax
8 revenues to the states and counties along the
9 pipeline corridor, which will help fund education,
10 which is so important to our youth, our society, and
11 our future.

12 The large electric loads to power the pump
13 stations on the pipeline, which served by Rural
14 Electric Cooperatives, will help stabilize rates for
15 all and that's particularly important on our Indian
16 reservations where the poverty rate is so high.

17 I've spent most of my adult life on Indian
18 reservations in Montana and I know that Native
19 Americans were the original environmentalists. They
20 respected the earth, they took only what they needed
21 and wasted nothing.

22 This Keystone pipeline will be safe.

1 There are many safety features built into this one
2 than the ones that are now in existence and operating
3 with entire safety.

4 MR. STEELE: Ms. Campbell, can you finish
5 up please you've finished your three minutes.

6 MS. CAMPBELL: Yes

7 MR. STEELE: Thank you.

8 MS. CAMPBELL: I support this because I
9 have children, grandchildren and more than two dozen
10 great grandchildren. I could not support anything
11 that I thought would damage the environment and
12 jeopardize their future.

13 I'm a rancher, and farmers and ranchers
14 are the ultimate conservationists. Our life depends
15 on the way we look after the land. I'm strong an
16 independent woman. I value strength and
17 independence.

18 MR. STEELE: Thank you very much. For the
19 record you are Betty Campbell?

20 MS. CAMPBELL: Yes I am.

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. CAPLAN: I'm Ruth Caplan. I'm giving
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1 my place to Mike Klink to speak about the Keystone
2 inspection process.

3 MR. KLINK: Hello. Thanks for allowing me
4 to speak. I'm the former inspector, I'm a civil
5 engineer that worked on the --

6 MR. STEELE: Can you state your name
7 please for the record.

8 MR. KLINK: Mike Klink.

9 MR. STEELE: And do you have an
10 affiliation?

11 MR. KLINK: I am affiliated with myself.

12 MR. STEELE: Okay.

13 MR. KLINK: How's that? I decided to
14 speak out because I wanted someone to know about the
15 quality of the project that Keystone did on the first
16 one in North and South Dakota.

17 Witness several glaring construction
18 errors, poor concrete construction, reinforcing rod
19 that was outside the structure, wrote all this up,
20 sent it to the main contractor, sent it on to Bectel,
21 who was the construction manager on the job, which
22 went to TransCanada.

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1 A lot of it was covered up, frozen
2 concrete, there was several times that TransCanada
3 came and viewed the work, said it's okay, it's in the
4 middle of nowhere, don't worry about it, they covered
5 it up and went on.

6 My integrity tells me that you can't do
7 that. We can't allow things to be built that aren't
8 according to the proper plans and specifications.
9 The pumping` station which had the largest leak is
10 actually on an island in North Dakota surrounded by
11 wetlands.

12 We watched the destruction of wetlands
13 while they were doing construction. There is just no
14 regard for them. We recorded them as environmental
15 problems. TransCanada did nothing. They didn't
16 care.

17 Then we get to the piping, the piping had
18 all come from China. What about the jobs that were
19 lost in the United States, our steel mills? We need
20 those jobs here. You go to weld onto the pipe and it
21 splits and breaks.

22 Then they give us a report that says this

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1 pipe is good. Problem is, none of us could read
2 Chinese. Please, if nothing else, before you decide
3 on this, adopt quality standards. And I know that
4 you may not have them right now, you think you don't,
5 but the Nuclear Regulatory Committee does have them.
6 Give them a chance to build something that right,
7 regulate it, welding procedures, and maybe, just
8 maybe there won't be 14 leaks in the first year, one
9 of the worse disasters of a pipeline in history.
10 Thank you very much.

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. STEELE: I'd like to call please #9,
13 Ms. Anita Parlow, #10, Mr. Bob Vandervalt, #11,
14 Steven Bruckner, and #12, Robin Mann, please.

15 MS. PARLOW: Good Morning and thank you
16 very much. My name is Anita Parlow. I am with A.L.
17 Parlow and Associates. You can find it at
18 www.sustaintheglobe.com corporate social
19 responsibility project.

20 So thank you very much for allowing me to
21 present briefly my thoughts regarding the
22 administration's decision to approve or decline the
23

1 permit that would allow for TransCanada to build the
2 1,700 miles tar sands pipeline, the Keystone XL that
3 would traverse the American heartland, stretching
4 from Alberta, Canada, before reaching Port Arthur on
5 the Texas Gulf Coast.

6 I understand that the concerns right now
7 are whether this would be in the national interest
8 and I appreciate that you do national interest in a
9 variety of complex ways.

10 Given that the proposed pipeline would
11 cross amongst other locations, Indian country in the
12 U.S., might I note that traditional Native American
13 theology would ask that every significant decision
14 regarding land or the utilization of natural
15 resources, be made with consideration of potential
16 impacts for seven generations yet to come.

17 The core issue is whether it is in the
18 interest of the United States to approve the permit,
19 the allow TransCanada to transport 830,000 barrels a
20 day of Canadian tar sands.

21 My own perspective on whether the
22 administration would grant a permit to TransCanada is
23

1 based on two main concerns. First, that the decision
2 be made within the context of energy security moving
3 forward, and second, that if a favorable decision is
4 made, the administration, along with TransCanada and
5 other business interest, would fully incorporate
6 conditionality into the permits to ensure an
7 appropriate range of prevention, protection, and
8 disaster response capabilities that would support the
9 environment, water, humanity -- sorry, human and
10 community risks.

11 My own experience in these matters draws
12 from a combination of my advance degree in law from
13 Oxford University and Corporate Social Responsibility
14 and my recent work in the variety of locations in the
15 Americas and subterranean Africa, Central Asia, and
16 most recently on a BP related project in the U.S.
17 Gulf Coast, where community recovery, particularly in
18 the seafood industry was at stake.

19 The BP spill and its ongoing aftermath
20 offers perhaps a sobering glimpse into what can
21 happen if this is not done. The 1,700 mile pipeline
22 could become a fault line moving into the 2012

1 election. But whatever the lead-up or outcome, the
2 TransCanada should be treated on its own terms rather
3 than as a political football.

4 My remarks focus on regulatory and other
5 limitations that the administration should require
6 before issuing a permit, should a permit be issued.
7 And not to say that some of these issues weren't
8 discussed in your EIS, but what we learned after the
9 BP spill was that there was quite a lot left undone,
10 unnoticed, unattended, or insufficient regulatory
11 capabilities.

12 One energy security -- we were told that
13 the pipeline is good for jobs. A gentleman waiting
14 in line with us with one of the unions made it quite
15 clear that 20% unemployment amongst workers, counts
16 for something in terms of the determination of
17 whether or not the permit would be issued.

18 However, a corollary question reads by
19 several persons here is another question, another
20 aspect of energy security of whether the tar sands
21 oil will be used for domestic consumption or passed
22 through for export.

23

1 MS. STEEL: Ms. Parlow, can you go ahead
2 and complete your remarks please.

3 MS. PARLOW: I would just like to say in
4 his new book, New York Times author Tom Freedman
5 noted that the U.S. is becoming a country that
6 transnational corporations hover over rather than
7 identify with.

8 The other issues that I think are quite
9 significant would be leaks and spill issues, eminent
10 domain and up-to-date disaster response capabilities
11 which bring in local communities that might be
12 affected or impacted by any disaster or spill or
13 pipeline breakdown that might occur.

14 In conclusion however, before the
15 administration should decide to grant a permit, the
16 government must go beyond the call. It must consider
17 all viewpoints and above all, develop a regulatory
18 monitoring and disaster response capability that
19 includes local communities to assure to the extent
20 possible that a BP style disaster is not waiting in
21 the wings. Thank you.

22 MR. STEELE: Thank you.

23

1 (Applause.)

2 MR. VAN DERVALK: Thanks to Steve Jobs I
3 have a timer that I can use, thank you Steve. My
4 name is Bob van derValk. I travel the whole way here
5 from Terry, Montana. I am a proud citizen. I have
6 no stake in the Keystone XL pipeline. My wife and I
7 traveled here 22 miles -- 2200 miles -- 22 miles I
8 guess from here to the airport.

9 I am a petroleum industry analyst, I have
10 been proud to be in the industry for 52 years, worked
11 for UniCal for 20 of those years. I was there at the
12 Santa Barbara oil spill and was the Santa Barbara oil
13 spill plant manager and cleaned up my share of birds,
14 and I was not proud of it. And I saw the malaise
15 that caused us to have what at that point became the
16 Iranian oil cut off and no energy policy.

17 And this Keystone XL pipeline will help us
18 get at least get it back to the Americas, because we
19 have lost in three wars and many conflicts 150,000
20 American lives fighting for foreign oil to get it
21 here because the Exxon Mobiles and the other oil
22 companies I have worked for cannot afford to follow

23

1 all the regulations and anything that's been passed
2 along to follow the rules that we need to have in
3 order to have the clean environment that the American
4 Indian/Native American just spoke about.

5 Canada has been accused of manipulating
6 oil prices and I am here to tell you that no one oil
7 company can do that. We have the Goldman Sachs and
8 the Morgan Stanleys and the hedge funds and the Wall
9 Street banks for which these people outside are
10 proudly protesting, doing it quite well thank you and
11 they're making money.

12 We will, in fact save money on this
13 pipeline because guess who is making all the money
14 right now, transferring the oil from the Bakken North
15 Dakota and Eastern Montana, Elm Coulee and Three Folk
16 oil fields, the Burlington Northern and the Santa Fe,
17 and do you know who owns that? Warren Buffet.

18 Is Warren Buffet going to make so much
19 money he'll give up his 15 or 25 percent that he's
20 been talking about to President Obama? I think he
21 will.

22 He's got a coal train going through Terry,
23

1 Montana every 20 minutes from coal strip on the BNSF
2 to Chicago. And you know what, I love it. It's
3 industry, its capitalism, it's good. He is making
4 money and it is good for him, but this pipeline will
5 make money for us, it will be more economical.

6 And the last thing I wanted to say is, if
7 my time is not up, I asked the question at the
8 Glendale meeting, how many people here came in other
9 than a fossil fuel vehicle. Got a few hands, okay in
10 Glendale there was out of five owner, zero people
11 that actually came in other than a fossil fuel
12 vehicle. And my time is up and I appreciate it.
13 It's going to take a man of steel to get this word to
14 President Obama to approve this pipeline now.

15 (Applause.)

16 MR. STEELE: I'd like to call Mr. Steven
17 Bruckner please. Excuse me can you sit down please.
18 Also those in the back that are standing, there are
19 plenty of seats in the front and the Fire Marshall
20 would appreciate people remaining seated. Mr.
21 Bruckner.

22 MR. BRUCKNER: Good morning. My name is

23

1 Steven Bruckner. I'm with the Sierra Club. I'm
2 Conservation Chair of the Virginia Chapter.

3 I speak today in opposition to the
4 proposed Keystone XL pipeline not only because it
5 violates the official climate positions of both the
6 Canadian and U.S. Governments, but because the
7 Canadian oil industry's proposal is against the
8 economic interest of Americans, specifically its
9 farmers and consumers.

10 The oil economist, Professor Verleger from
11 the University of Calgary states that building the
12 Keystone XL pipeline would increase the full fuel
13 cost of U.S. farmers by \$2.6 billion in 2013.

14 It would increase the fuel cost throughout
15 the U.S. because farmer's fuel costs are passed
16 through to consumers. It would increase the gasoline
17 and diesel throughout the Midwest by 10 to 20 cents
18 per gallon.

19 Therefore, the building of Keystone XL
20 would increase America's oil bill by \$5 billion per
21 year. How would this happen? At the current time,
22 the Canadian tar sands oil is shipped to refineries

23

1 in Illinois and Oklahoma.

2 These refiners pay \$15 per barrel less
3 than the global price because the tar sands oil is in
4 over supply. This reduced price benefits Midwest
5 farmers and consumers. If the Keystone XL pipeline
6 is built, the oil will be shipped to refineries in
7 the Gulf Coast and from there the resulting gasoline
8 and diesel will be exported to Europe and South
9 America where it will fetch the \$15 per barrel higher
10 global price.

11 Since the Canadian oil companies will be
12 able to receive the higher price by exporting they
13 will reduce the supply into the U.S. market until the
14 U.S. price increases to match the global price, thus
15 the Keystone XL pipeline, if built, will decrease
16 supply to the U.S. market and will increase the U.S.
17 oil bill by \$5 billion per year.

18 In addition, the Canadian oil companies
19 claim the proposed Keystone XL pipeline will reduce
20 dependence on imported oil from unfriendly countries
21 and reduce the potential for supply disruptions.

22 This claim is bogus, however, because the

23

1 U.S. already has 700 million barrels --

2 (Chorus of voices.)

3 MR. STEELE: Can you please let the
4 gentleman speak. Thank you, his time is not up yet.
5 Go ahead Mr. Bruckner.

6 MR. BRUCKNER: The U.S. already has a 700
7 million barrel strategic petroleum reserve designed
8 to provide the same protection. This reserve
9 provides more than adequate insurance against supply
10 disruptions.

11 In summary, the proposed Keystone XL
12 pipeline is against the economic interest of U.S.
13 farmers and consumers and should not be approved.

14 Consider the uproar over the failure of
15 the Department of Energy's loan guarantee to
16 Solandra, that cost U.S. taxpayers \$500 million.
17 This Department of State decision would cost taxpayer
18 \$5 billion per year, that is 10 Solandras per year,
19 every year. Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 MR. STEELE: Robin Mann please.

22 MS. MANN: Hi, Robin Mann. Thank you for

23

1 the opportunity to testify today regarding the
2 Keystone XL pipeline. As President of the Sierra
3 Club, the country's oldest and largest grassroots
4 environmental organization, I'm here on behalf of our
5 more than 1.4 million members and supporters to say
6 that the Keystone XL pipeline is not in our nation's
7 interest.

8 This pipeline is dangerous, dirty, and
9 unnecessary. I was in Montana this summer just after
10 the Yellowstone River oil spill. I toured the site
11 of the spill and what I saw was a catastrophe. Oil
12 pasturing crop lands, 25 miles of river fouled by
13 42,000 gallons of toxic crude oil.

14 I took away three lessons that the
15 Department should heed in the decision on this
16 pipeline. First, spills happen no matter how many
17 precautions are taken. Second, impacts are much more
18 devastating during extreme weather events such as
19 flooding, droughts and wildfires as we're seeing in
20 Texas, and changing climate appears to be bringing
21 more extreme weather. And third, out of sight is not
22 out of the ecosystem or unconnected to our health.

1 I saw a pasture where the top of the grass
2 looked fine and on their stems below was residual
3 oil, oil that was left there from the flooding
4 conditions, oil that will poison the land, poison the
5 water, poison the livestock for a very long time.

6 Last week we saw hundreds of Americans
7 travel to hearings to say no to this pipeline. These
8 people were not paid, not bused around by
9 TransCanada.

10 (Applause.)

11 These were people who took off work, took
12 the time to understand this complicated project, who
13 are exposing the truth behind TransCanada's
14 exaggerated claims, uncovering the dismal safety
15 record of this company.

16 The American people expected a fair
17 hearing by the Department of State and were shocked
18 to see their testimony being taken by employees of a
19 company called Cardno Entrix, a friend that
20 advertises specialization in permitting and
21 compliance and whose clients include TransCanada and
22 BP.

23

1 I am glad to know my comments are being
2 heard today by the State Department officials. This
3 firm has managed much of the environmental impact
4 review, public outreach and public comment process,
5 State Department has failed to deliver on its
6 responsibility to draft a scientifically robust and
7 fair environmental review.

8 The State Department has also grossly
9 mismanaged the public input process by turning it
10 over to a firm aligned with the oil company proposing
11 this pipeline.

12 Americans are not being asked to shoulder
13 these risks from the Keystone XL pipeline simply to
14 grant the tar sands industry access to an
15 international shipping port.

16 There is no guarantee that this pipeline's
17 oil will be used in the United States and, in fact,
18 one of the main companies contracted to purchase the
19 oil has indicated it will export it.

20 It is simply not in our national interest
21 to threaten the air, water, and land of millions of
22 Americans to supply foreign markets with this dirty

23

1 oil and benefit the companies serving them.

2 Sierra Club calls on the Department of
3 State to take another look at this proposed pipeline,
4 and this time, do it without the TransCanada
5 contractors and TransCanada lobbyists in the room.

6 This time take an honest look at the
7 impacts, look at the science, look at the record, and
8 listen to the will of the American people. The
9 national interest will be clear. Say no to the
10 pipeline.

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. STEELE: Ladies and gentlemen, while
13 we appreciate that you appreciate the comments made
14 by the various different speakers; long rounds of
15 applause do take time away from listening to those
16 comments. So please hold that down. I'd next like
17 to call Ms. Daniel Simms, #13, Mr. Eric Pica, please
18 #14, #15, Susan Straka Luebbe, and #16, George
19 Poitras, please.

20 MS. SIMMS: Hi my name is Daniel Simms. I
21 was born in 1988, the same year that NASA scientist
22 James Hansen gave his testimony on climate change and
23

1 brought the issue to broader awareness.

2 I was too young to remember the Exxon
3 Valdez oil spill in Alaska, too young in 1997 to
4 understand the frustration when the United States
5 didn't sign the Kyoto Protocol.

6 Throughout my life, I've seen the effects
7 of droughts to some of the largest most destructive
8 hurricanes in history and I've lived through the
9 hottest years on the planet and I graduated college
10 weeks after the BP oil spill disaster.

11 Clearly the United States needs to lead I
12 this action. I am African American and many of our
13 communities pay the price by living near health risks
14 such as coal-fired power plants or oil pipelines.

15 This Keystone XL pipeline isn't just an
16 environmental issue but a justice and civil rights
17 issue as well. It could destroy aquifers, and
18 introduce toxins to our food supply.

19 Already, tar sands oil extraction requires
20 removing ancient forests and leave toxins behind that
21 cause cancer and increase air pollution and lung
22 disease.

23

1 I have Native American ancestors,
2 indigenous people who have perfected how to coexist
3 with nature, will see their communities destroyed by
4 this pipeline. Indigenous people have contributed
5 little to climate change yet they suffer from the
6 brunt of their direct and immediate effects.

7 The proposal for this audacious pipeline
8 shows that the State Department is willing to put the
9 wellbeing of communities at risk for the profit of
10 the oil industry. The American people sense deep in
11 their bones that with just a slight change of
12 priorities, the federal government can make every
13 effort to end Apartheid and start decreasing the
14 income gap between the haves and have nots, and to
15 start leading on climate action.

16 This begins when our country ceases to
17 invest in an unjust energy system that creates
18 expendable people in order to benefit millionaires.
19 This begins when the U.S. stops investing its
20 technology that poisons our planet, our water supply
21 and food supply.

22 This begins when t he U.S. shows the world

1 that we have a determination and a vision to end our
2 addiction to oil while reducing our contribution to
3 climate change.

4 Since the Keystone XL pipeline has already
5 leaked 12 times in 12 months, a new pipeline is not a
6 serious effort to solve this problem. In 2006, one
7 Senator stated, since as America is addicted to oil
8 without following a real plan for energy
9 independence, it's like admitting alcoholism and then
10 skipping out on the 12-step program.

11 It's not enough to identify the challenge,
12 we have to meet it. That Senator is now our
13 President. State Department, today, if you feel the
14 sense of urgency we feel, then you have no doubt the
15 moral choice you must make. Either you will support
16 the oligarchy and the oil industry or you will stand
17 up for the American people and for environmental and
18 civil rights justice.

19 We are empowering you, the State
20 Department to deny the pipeline for the Keystone XL.
21 Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23

1 MR. PICA: Good morning. My name is Eric
2 Pica and I am President of Friends to the Earth
3 United States. I am here representing our members,
4 who are up and down the pipeline route. I am here
5 representing the more than 76 Friends of the Earth
6 country groups around the world because this pipeline
7 is a dangerous, deadly, polluting pipeline that will,
8 as Jim Hansen says, take our planet into climate
9 chaos.

10 We have not been silent about our
11 opposition to this pipeline, but we want to live
12 within the NEPA process, the fact that citizens have
13 a fair right to express their opinion, but
14 unfortunately, Secretary Clinton and the State
15 Department very early on tipped the scales in
16 TransCanada's favor.

17 In October, Secretary Clinton said she was
18 inclined to approve this pipeline. She was inclined
19 to approve it before comments here today and around
20 the country were heard. That is an imbalanced
21 process.

22 It's also shocking to see that Cardno

23

1 Entrix, a consultant for TransCanada, a business
2 partner for TransCanada is leading this process.
3 That is tipping the scales.

4 Just last week, Friends of the Earth got
5 over 300 pages of FOIA information from State
6 Department officials that were coaching, that were
7 rooting for TransCanada and the lobbyists that they
8 hired, mainly Paul Elliott, to get this pipeline
9 approved.

10 And finally, this week we have filed a
11 lawsuit in Nebraska because the State Department is
12 allowing illegal clearing and moving of endangered
13 species before this process is complete. This is an
14 unbalanced, unfair process.

15 You've asked the public for questions and
16 now I have a few questions for State Department. Are
17 these hearings simply a farce? Are they a parody of
18 the governing process and a parity of the rule of
19 law? Why are you asking input right now when it's
20 very clear from FOIA documents that I will submit for
21 the record, so that the future generations, if this
22 pipeline is approved, can read how the State

23

1 Department helped this pipeline get built. Are you
2 just clearing the way and making excuses for
3 TransCanada?

4 And finally, why is the State Department
5 allowing this illegal clearing in Nebraska and the
6 moving of endangered species before a permit, before
7 a permit is even approved and the process for public
8 hearing is done?

9 President Obama ran a campaign on trying
10 to clean up Washington, DC in cleaning up the lobby
11 process. It is clear that this process is failing as
12 promised, it is failing the American people and it is
13 failing the environment, and it is failing our need
14 globally to address climate change.

15 This pipeline should and must be stopped.
16 President Obama must take the authority from the
17 State Department and make the decision on his own
18 because that is the only way that we protect this
19 planet, protect the American people and ensure that
20 there is integrity in this process, which is lacking
21 right now. Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23

1 MR. STEELE: Please, do go ahead.

2 MS. STRAKALUBY: Hello, my name is Susan
3 Strakaluby. I am a landowner and a rancher from the
4 Sand Hills of Nebraska.

5 First of all I'd like to shout out to mom
6 and all the people back home helping me out while I'm
7 here for our county.

8 I have traveled all the way here to tell
9 all of you this permit must be denied. It is not in
10 the national best interest for anyone except the
11 money hungry, greedy corporation of TransCanada.

12 I am part of a fourth generation ranch
13 that raises Black Angus cow. Sadly our way of making
14 a living could all go away in seconds and that is why
15 we have not signed our easement contract with
16 TransCanada land agents.

17 People out here have no idea what it takes
18 to work in the land of the sand hills of Nebraska.
19 It is a seven-day per week job. We are proud of what
20 we do but not everyone can do the work we do.

21 You have to grow up in this type of
22 atmosphere to stick it out day after day. So when a
23

1 foreign corporation comes in and tells us landowners
2 lie after lie to get us to sign, it leaves a very
3 sour taste in our mouth.

4 All of us Nebraskans are now very
5 concerned about our sand hills and our water. You
6 see, if I don't take care of both, it could leave the
7 land destitute for anyone to live off of it forever.

8 I don't want tar sands chemicals in our
9 water. Our water table on our ranch is only two feet
10 underground. Knowing this pipeline will sit in, not
11 over the aquifers, is a serious threat to our
12 livelihood of Nebraska.

13 We have been threatened with eminent
14 domain so many times. The bad reputation and intense
15 false promises of TransCanada does not make anyone
16 trust them. All the jobs promised is not worth the
17 economic stimulus that Nebraska sand hills and our
18 aquifers will stand.

19 We are an Ag state with the world's best
20 kept secret, until now, and now it is an all out war
21 to battle TransCanada and keep them off our property.

22 If I can't sell my cattle, if I can't sell
23

1 my land, if I can't shower or drink the greatest
2 tasting water on earth, when there is a leak in our
3 aquifers, where will I work?

4 President Obama, you promised to let the
5 earth heal and look for better ways to lead our
6 future. Madam Secretary of State Clinton, this is
7 definitely in our nation's worse interest.

8 Please, for our children's future on our
9 ranch, deny this permit. Thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR. STEELE: George Poitras please.

12 MR. PACHA: Good morning, my name is
13 George Pacha. I think I am the one who is out of the
14 ordinary here because I am First Nation and I come
15 from Northern Canada. I actually come from the tar
16 sands area. I represent many First Nations in Canada
17 and I'm here today representing the families who are
18 also living and dying with very rare and aggressive
19 cancers which we suspect are caused from the tar
20 sands.

21 I'm a former Chief of my First Nation. We
22 live in an area called the Peace-Athabasca Delta,

23

1 which is one of the largest fresh water deltas in the
2 world. Unfortunately, the tar sands are situated in
3 our traditional homelands and we've been observing
4 many issues of the 40 years of open pit mining of the
5 tar sands and only three percent of the total tar
6 sands deposit has been mined.

7 We've seen water quality issues, water
8 quantity issues, impacts to animals, to birds, to big
9 game, to fish health and more critically, we're
10 seeing rare and aggressive cancers in my community
11 today.

12 We've seen environmental injustices, human
13 rights abuses, repeated infringements of our
14 constitutionally treaty rights by both Alberta and
15 Canada and by third parties like the multi-national
16 oil companies that are invested in the tar sands.

17 There is nothing ethical about using tar
18 sands oil versus Saudi Arabia oil. Your thirst for
19 tar sands and for this pipeline will undoubtedly mean
20 the total devastation of our homelands, the water,
21 the animals, the birds, the fish, and contribution to
22 early deaths of my people and undoubtedly the

23

1 genocide of my people.

2 We vehemently and categorically reject the
3 approval of this pipeline for very obvious reasons
4 and I want to challenge Secretary Clinton, President
5 Obama who I think has an ethical and moral obligation
6 prior to making this determination of an approval to
7 visit the tar sands, to see the tar sands, to hear
8 our people, and to listen to the many concerns and
9 issues that people have.

10 And so with that I am happy to be here
11 with our indigenous brothers and sisters from both
12 sides of the border to oppose this pipeline. Thank
13 you.

14 (Applause.)

15 MR. STEELE: I'd like to call please Mr.
16 Steven Anderson, Mr. George Stanley, Mr. Randy
17 Thompson and Mr. Leslie Fields, please.

18 MR. ANDERSON: Good morning. I am Steve
19 Anderson, Retired Brigadier General of the United
20 States Army. I was a Senior Logistician in Iraq for
21 15 months, directly working for General David
22 Petraeus.

23

1 I want to tell you why I believe that this
2 pipeline is against our national best interest and
3 why it's against our Military's best interest.

4 (Applause.)

5 This pipeline will keep us addicted to oil
6 and our addiction to oil gets soldiers killed. We
7 have lost over 1,000 American lives moving fuel on
8 the battlefield in Iraq and Afghanistan, and I know
9 because I was the guy that was running many of those
10 convoys, controlling that from the top.

11 It wastes billions of dollars. This
12 nation will spend \$20 billion this year alone on the
13 fuel and the energy to air condition structures in
14 Iraq and Afghanistan. That's just for air
15 conditioning, \$20 billion in consideration of the
16 fully burden cost of fuel, which is \$30.00 per gallon
17 in Afghanistan and probably \$18.00 or so per gallon
18 in Iraq.

19 We're talking about the most isolated
20 nation in the world and it's hard to get fuel up
21 there folks. This pipeline will continue to fund our
22 enemies and our enemies are delighting in this

23

1 pipeline because they know that their wealth will
2 continue to prosper and ours will degrade.

3 We will continue to send billions of
4 dollars over to our enemies that are right now
5 building bombs and trying to kill us, and our
6 soldiers are dying because of it.

7 Over 3,500 American lives have been lost
8 to the IEDs that were funded by our oil money. This
9 pipeline will take off the pressure to develop
10 renewable energy and we've heard about that more
11 compellingly already than I can speak. Well we need
12 to continue that energy development and that will get
13 jobs by the way, in a green economy for veterans like
14 me.

15 This will continue, CO2 emissions and CO2
16 emissions lead to climate change and climate change
17 leads to instability and that will mean that soldiers
18 like me will have to continue to fight and die in
19 order to police the world. This pipeline will set
20 back the clock 25 years of energy development in this
21 nation, it will delight our enemies.

22 It comes down to a couple things folks,
23

1 CO2 emissions, clean water, and American blood. Stop
2 this pipeline!!

3 (Applause.)

4 MR. STEELE: George Stanley, please.

5 MR. STANLEY: Good morning. My American
6 brothers and sisters my name is George Stanley. I
7 represent Alberta Region of four to five First Nation
8 committees. I come from an assembly of First Nations
9 as an efficacy body.

10 I bring to you some key notes to you folks
11 and I'm sure that it's all to do with human, a
12 healthy environment and our species at risk. But
13 foremost, I want to bring a strong message from four
14 to five nations that I represent.

15 We, back in 1971, we had a Premier called
16 Peter Lougheed, that made very clear to Albertans,
17 when he initiated the open pit mining, that it was
18 meant for Alberta. He never envisioned Keystone,
19 Ambrit, and so on.

20 Today, is very concerned as well as
21 leaders like myself. We bring forward to our
22 Canadian counterparts who send strong messages that

23

1 we want some communication, consultation to our First
2 Nations that are most impacted.

3 Today you can see tar sands from outer
4 space, that's how we're used to this and I come from
5 that very, very back of that oil tar sands. I don't
6 expect to live more than 15 years.

7 If someone can come and pay my bill and
8 the bills that are forward to the next generation to
9 the cost of this tar sands, I'm welcoming them to
10 come and pay for that because the Alberta people are
11 not paid on these health issues.

12 I'm very adamant in many ways about tar
13 sands because as First Nations we invest of some of
14 those and sad to say that there is no policy or any
15 regulations from the province, let alone for
16 province, but federal government.

17 I want to greet all of my brothers and
18 sisters that are wearing red and orange shirts, come
19 and visit us in Alberta. You will be about six hours
20 before you get to the tar sands, you will smell this
21 and living there is another thing.

22 I want to bring this message before you,

23

1 Obama, my brother I should say, somebody say he is a
2 Chief, like myself, let's consider a dialogue before
3 I agree to support this and brothers, the farmers,
4 their belts are getting higher, so they're making
5 some comments.

6 American farmers, some that agree, some
7 that disagree, we will not bring you the dirty oil if
8 you don't want us to. Thank you and good morning.

9 (Applause.)

10 MR. STEELE: I'd like to call please,
11 Randy Thompson, then Leslie -- Randy Thompson, yes
12 you're next.

13 MR. THOMPSON: Good morning. My name is
14 Randy Thompson. I am from Martell, Nebraska. I'm
15 here as a Nebraska citizen and landowner. I would
16 like to thank you for the opportunity to be here
17 today.

18 I'm very proud to be a Nebraskan.
19 Nebraska is a great place to live and it's filled
20 with many hard working, honest, good people.
21 Normally, you'll never hear a Nebraskan raising much
22 of a fuss unless an official makes a poor call at
23

1 Husker football game.

2 But in recent months I have noticed a
3 change in the behavior of my fellow Nebraskan, like
4 booing a corporate sponsor at a Husker football game.
5 They were booed so severely that the athletic
6 director elected to remove the ads from the stadium.
7 The corporate sponsor was TransCanada.

8 I have also witnessed something I have
9 never seen before and that's my fellow Nebraskans
10 filling the hearing halls to make their voices heard.
11 This might bring you to ask the question, what's got
12 you folks so stirred up out there on the Plainses?

13 Well the short answer is, we feel like
14 we're being thrown under the bus, not for a project
15 that's in our national interest, but very much for a
16 project that is in the private interest of big oil
17 companies.

18 We feel our legitimate concerns about the
19 sand hills and our great Ogallala Aquifer have gone
20 unrecognized in an environmental statement that was
21 in part written by consulting firms with very close
22 ties to big oil companies.

23

1 We know the value of water to our state
2 and to this great nation. We realize that water, not
3 oil, is the central ingredient for life.

4 (Applause.)

5 We also understand that water will become
6 a critical issue for future generations of Americans
7 and we can ill-afford to waste or contaminate one
8 drop of that water, especially not for the sake of
9 greed.

10 We have difficulty rationalizing how a
11 pipeline pushing oil across our country to some
12 unknown destination can be in our national interest.

13 In closing, I would like to say this,
14 history will be the ultimate judge of this project
15 and we're about ready to write that chapter of our
16 history. Will our descendants look back and say,
17 thank God our great grandfathers had the foresight to
18 protect the resources that we are now depending upon
19 or will they say, what were the damn fools thinking
20 about?

21 (Applause.)

22 MR. STEELE: I would like to call please

23

1 Leslie Fields, Lisa Van Susteren, Mike Richter and
2 Leslie Weeks, please.

3 MS. FIELDS: Good morning, my name is
4 Leslie Fields. I'm the Environmental Justice and
5 Community Partnership Director for the Sierra Club
6 and we appreciate very much this opportunity to
7 testify in this important issue.

8 I'm just here to simply state that this
9 pipeline, as many of my colleagues and our friends
10 from all over this hemisphere have said, is not in
11 the national interest. Not only that, the analysis
12 for this pipeline is terribly flawed and the State
13 Department failed to conduct an environmental justice
14 analysis of this EIS and understand that President
15 Clinton was resolute in his Executive Order 1289 and
16 which still serves as the guiding principle on which
17 a federal agency should conduct their actions to
18 further environmental justice.

19 In the accompanying memorandum to the
20 heads of the federal agencies, he emphasized that a
21 part of every NEPA analysis, federal agencies must
22 analyze the environmental effects, including human
23

1 health, economic and social effects, and including
2 effects on minority populations and low income
3 populations.

4 Echoing this Executive Order, the Council
5 on Environmental Quality guidance also states plainly
6 that the NEPA process must include an analysis of the
7 relevant public health data, as well as an analysis
8 of the cumulative multiple exposures.

9 This guidance also requires the State
10 Department to consider cultural, social, historical
11 and economical factors that may be acerbated by this
12 pipeline. This was not done. We are very much
13 appreciative of Cynthia Geils, the Assistant
14 Administrator for the office of Enforcement,
15 Compliance Insurance of the EPA and their analysis
16 saying that there was not enough evidence that this
17 influx of huge amount of oil into these refineries in
18 the Gulf Coast will have no environmental impact.

19 In fact, it is most likely to add another
20 strew of pollution to communities already burdened by
21 multiple sources of pollution. There has been a
22 systematic failure of the State Department throughout
23

1 this process to give adequate consideration to the
2 impacts and risks of this project that poses to
3 minority populations and to meaningfully include
4 these populations in this review.

5 But finally I estimate severely flawed in
6 its conclusion that this project will have no
7 environmental ramifications and it also fails to
8 provide sufficient mitigation measures to remedy
9 spills or ruptures, it fails to identify the most
10 likely refineries that will process the Keystone XL
11 pipeline, it fails to analyze the health impacts of
12 the surrounding communities and avoids an analysis of
13 refining impacts by claiming that this pipeline will
14 not change the current levels of heavy crude
15 refinery.

16 The EIS seems to ignore that pipelines do
17 spill and often much more predicted by their owners
18 as we have heard today. In fact, the TransCanada
19 predicted that its Keystone pipeline would only spill
20 once in its first year of operation and it has
21 spilled 12 times.

22 That has resulted in the Pipeline
23

1 Hazardous Materials and Safety Administration issuing
2 a corrective order to TransCanada, finding that the
3 continued operation of the pipeline without
4 corrective measures will be hazardous to life,
5 property, and the environment.

6 Despite this, the State Department claims
7 that the proposed project would not likely pose
8 significant risk to residents along the route
9 associated with spills and leaks due to stringent
10 safety integrity measures incorporated.

11 EPA also strongly criticized the EIS
12 analysis of the impacts refining the crude because it
13 is not evident that 830 million barrels a day of
14 capacity from Canada to the refineries will have no
15 omissions of fact.

16 MR. STEELE: Ms. Fields could you go ahead
17 and wrap up your comments.

18 MS. FIELDS: Okay.

19 MR. STEELE: Thank you.

20 MS. FIELDS: Well the refineries in the
21 communities in Port Arthur, Texas, include Matevo,
22 Valero, Huntsman Petroleum, Chevron Phillips, Great

23

1 Lakes Carbon, Total Pheona, BSFF Pheona, and also
2 Chemical Waste Management facility.

3 We are very disappointed that Secretary
4 Clinton has already made almost a determination for
5 this pipeline and propose to approve it. We remember
6 when she was Senator Clinton she instituted and held
7 the first ever environmental justice hearing in USA
8 history in July of 2007. We were very encouraged
9 back then.

10 We believe that she should heed what her
11 spouse when he was president in his environmental
12 justice executive order to make sure that these
13 impacts, these communities are protected and we very
14 much hope that this current president will veto this
15 pipeline. Thank you.

16 MR. STEELE: Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 MS. VAN SUSTEREN: Lisa Van Susteren. I
19 am a doctor. I am on the Advisory Board of the
20 Center for Health and the Global Environment at the
21 Harvard Medical School.

22 One month ago I was arrested at the White
23

1 House in protest of the Keystone XL pipeline. I am
2 speaking about our health and what we stand to lose.
3 50 square miles of lake size bodies of toxic waste
4 water have been formed from oil sands operations.

5 These dirty waters are spilling into our
6 watershed. Fort Chipewyan is one downstream cancer
7 hot spot. Our brothers and sisters there are three
8 times more likely to be stricken with leukemias and
9 lymphomas.

10 Lung cancers are on the rise and rare
11 cancers. Carcomias, extremely lethal cancers of the
12 soft tissues, bile duct cancers, Cholangiocarcinomas,
13 seven times more frequently diagnosed.

14 Two, just two of the substances in these
15 toxic wastewaters, the potent carcinogen benzene
16 linked especially to leukemias and lymphomas. The
17 Canadian government acknowledges that developing the
18 tar sands in 2007 alone caused 40,000 pounds of
19 benzene to be dumped into the Athabasca River.

20 Arsenic, once released into the
21 environment cannot be recaptured. It damages the
22 health of humans and animals at great distances from
23

1 where it was initially dumped, causes infertility,
2 neurologic damage, liver damage, cancers of the
3 lungs, bladder, kidneys, liver, also linked to
4 lymphoma.

5 Fourteen months ago the Keystone pipeline
6 spilled a million gallons of tar sands into the
7 Kalamazoo River. The acute phase, vomiting,
8 seizures, skin rashes, memory loss, what will happen
9 long term? And then there is what happens to us when
10 we breathe bad air, which will worsen with tar sands
11 that produce even more carbon dioxide than convention
12 fossil fuels.

13 I am a psychiatrist. I pierce denial for
14 a living. Think about it. Where will we be safe?
15 How will we feel? The rest of the world will know
16 how much of the carbon budget we took for ourselves
17 and the destruction that this has caused. We will be
18 pariahs.

19 To the State Department, Secretary
20 Clinton, deny this permit.

21 (Applause.)

22 MR. RICHTER: Well, my name is Mike

23

1 Richter, I'm a three time U.S. Olympian and currently
2 here as a clean tech entrepreneur. As a life-long
3 athlete, I understand well the connection between my
4 health and my ability to perform at high levels and
5 reach my potential.

6 As a father of three young boys, a husband
7 and a son to an elderly parent, I also understand the
8 intimate connection that each of us has between our
9 level of health and the quality of life and the
10 environment in which we live.

11 There are in fact few things more
12 fundamental in their importance than our health. If
13 we are going to fulfill our potential as people, as a
14 nation, and even as a species, there can be no higher
15 priority than to take every measure possible to
16 ensure that the health of our air, water, natural
17 resources in which life depends, is taken care of.

18 The question of the development of the tar
19 sands and the construction of the XL pipeline offer
20 such an opportunity. I want to stress two points
21 here. First, the tar sands are an environmental
22 disaster on many levels. Secondly, the environment

1 is never just about the environment.

2 The greenhouse gas emissions for tar sands
3 are estimated at three times that of conventional
4 oil. Whatever the level, given the best science that
5 we know, any increase should be avoided and these
6 levels are simply reckless.

7 Tar sands crude contains more heavy
8 metals, more carcinogens than conventional oil. They
9 have on average 11 times more sulfur, 11 times more
10 nickel, 6 times more nitrogen, 5 times lead than
11 conventional oil. Simply put, we'll suffer more
12 respiratory diseases and more cancer.

13 The pipeline as you heard will cross
14 directly through five states in our nation's
15 Heartland threatening sensitive land and rivers,
16 roads, the Ogallala Aquifer, which is 30% of our
17 agricultural water and drinking water for 2 million
18 Americans.

19 Tar sands carry more corrosive material
20 and must be transported at higher temperatures and
21 high pressure. The likelihood of catastrophic spills
22 along 1,700 miles is just unacceptably high.

23

1 Ironically, the economic and national
2 security are two reasons proponents use to support
3 the tar sands. This is a mistake. First, increasing
4 the concentration you heard of greenhouse gases
5 destabilizes the climate, compromises food security,
6 increases extreme weather events, environmental
7 refugees and undermines global security.

8 Treating geostrategic threat for an
9 ecological risk is just shortsighted. If we learned
10 one thing when Deep Water Horizon exploded, it's that
11 with one environmental catastrophe the economy and
12 social fabric of an entire region can be destroyed as
13 effectively as a terrorist attack.

14 Most importantly, Keystone XL will deepen
15 our dependence on oil at precisely a time when we
16 need to be investing in alternative energy
17 infrastructure.

18 By supporting yesterday's fuel source we
19 are moving dangerously close to ceding our leadership
20 position in the global clean tech economy.

21 Ultimately, the idea that our national
22 security depends on putting our environment at risk

1 and sacrificing our long-term interest for the
2 profits of a private foreign company, is a false
3 choice.

4 With efficiency and conservation, we can
5 save 4 million barrels of oil per day by 2020, 10
6 million per day by 2030. That's more than we import
7 from the Middle East, Venezuela and the tar sands
8 expansion combined. With a real effort at home grown
9 clean energy industry, the United States have the
10 potential to reignite its economy, create lasting
11 jobs, significantly bolster national security and the
12 health of its people.

13 We will only realize this potential if our
14 leaders realize theirs and stop the tar sands. Thank
15 you.

16 (Applause.)

17 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you. I'd like to call
18 now Leslie Weeks, #24 Danny Ruthenberg-Marshall, #25
19 Larry Schweiger, and #26 Rachel Eggebo and to remind
20 you if you could spell your last name and give your
21 affiliation, thank you.

22 MS. WEEKS: I am Leslie Weeks. I am
23

1 turning my time over to Dean Hubbard:

2 MR. HUBBARD: My name is Dean Hubbard and
3 I'm a proud member of the Transport Worker's Unison
4 of America. We represent some 200,000 active members
5 and retirees nationwide. Our members work in
6 airlines, public transit, on rails, gaming, utilities
7 and universities.

8 We respectfully call on the State
9 Department not to recommend approval of a
10 presidential permit for construction of the Keystone
11 XL pipeline.

12 (Applause.)

13 Construction of the pipeline is not in the
14 national interest of the United States. We share the
15 concerns conveyed by the EPA to the State Department
16 on two occasions, most recently on June 6th. These
17 concerns as you know, include first, the potential
18 impacts to United States ground water resources from
19 pipeline spills, second, the high level of greenhouse
20 gas emissions associated with the proposed project,
21 which will just make worse the job-killing component
22 of the climate crisis. And third, the inevitable

23

1 damage to the health of communities in the United
2 States affected by the increase in refinery
3 emissions.

4 Approval of this project would, in our
5 view, be reckless, given the EPA's assessment of the
6 environmental risks.

7 More importantly, from a union
8 perspective, approval of this project would impede
9 our country's critical efforts to create the jobs
10 that we need to transition to a more sustainable
11 economy. This is a transition that science tells us
12 we must make immediately in order to prevent
13 irreversible harm to the climate.

14 To help us make that transition, there is
15 no shortage of water and sewage pipelines that need
16 to be fixed or replaced, bridges and tunnels that are
17 in need of emergency repairs, and transportation
18 infrastructure that needs to be renewed and
19 developed.

20 There are jobs that need to be created in
21 the energy conservation, in upgrading the grid,
22 maintaining and expanding public transportation, jobs

1 that can help us reduce air pollution, green house
2 gas emissions, and improve energy efficiency.

3 It's past time for major new deal type
4 public investments in infrastructure modernization
5 and repair, energy conservation and climate
6 protection as a means of putting people to work and
7 laying the foundation for a more sustainable economic
8 future for the United States.

9 (Applause.)

10 This is just sound science and sound
11 economics. Increasing our reliance on bitumen sands
12 oil would take us in the opposite direction. Thank
13 you.

14 (applause.)

15 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you. Yes, please.

16 MR. RUTHENBERG-MARSHALL: My name is Danny
17 Ruthenberg-Marshall. I'm a member of the Maryland
18 Student Climate Coalition and an organic farm worker
19 from Southern Maryland.

20 When I look at DC, I see the frontlines of
21 politics, of a political system where money buys
22 power and the people are ignored. A system where our
23

1 so-called public servants bow to corporations, a
2 system where the long-term wellbeing of the public
3 trust is ignored in favor of the short-term profits
4 of the already wealthy.

5 It is a flawed system that we cannot fix
6 immediately, but we can take a step in the right
7 direction. You have an opportunity to break the
8 cycle and say not to corporate interest. You can say
9 that our environment is more important than corporate
10 profit and we will not sacrifice it. You can give
11 the country back to the people who love it dearly.

12 Say no to corporate greed and yes to
13 public need. Say no to the Keystone XL pipeline and
14 yes to true energy independence. Say yes to a clean
15 energy future based on renewable, built in this
16 country by American labor. Creating temporary jobs
17 and shipping energy abroad is not conducive to
18 building a productive America nor is it conducive to
19 energy security and independence.

20 Break the political cycle, break the
21 collusion between corporate interest and government
22 decision-makers and build a better and brighter
23

1 American future.

2 (Applause.)

3 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much.

4 MR. SCHWEIGER: I am Larry Schweiger and I
5 am President and CEO of the National Wildlife
6 Federation. The Federation is a non-partisan, non-
7 profit organization supported by 47 state affiliates
8 and 4 million members across America.

9 The Keystone XL pipeline is a dangerous
10 and unnecessary project that jeopardizes America's
11 conservation heritage, the livelihood of landowners
12 across its path and the precious resources upon which
13 many in this country depend and a presidential permit
14 should not be granted.

15 The question being asked is whether this
16 pipeline is in the national interest. The answer is
17 pretty simple. For me as a father and a grandfather
18 spoiling our planet for our children's future is not
19 in the national interest.

20 Addicting Americans to trillions of
21 dollars of expensive Canadian oil is not in the
22 national interest. Leaving our kids with a

23

1 superheated planet with super-sized oil spills is not
2 in our national interest.

3 I wonder what national interest means to
4 the administration. Our measuring stick is very
5 clear, what we should be doing is for our kids and
6 our grandchildren, the natural world that we leave
7 them.

8 I am troubled by what the State Department
9 seems to be using as its measuring stick. The e-mail
10 traffic that has been uncovered makes clear the cozy
11 relationship with the corporations pushing this
12 project and Secretary Clinton passed judgment long
13 ago that this pipeline is a good thing for America
14 without ever talking to the landowners who are
15 affected by this project, without ever talking to the
16 First Nation people, without talking to the experts
17 who know that this is a dangerous pipeline and a
18 terrible idea.

19 It says a lot that she is not here today.
20 I don't think she has ever sat down with the
21 opponents of this pipeline but she is meeting today
22 with corporate leaders, including the corporation
23

1 that is encouraging investments in this tar sands
2 pipeline.

3 Keystone XL is a critically important and
4 environmental legacy decision for the Obama
5 Administration. The State Department's final
6 Environmental Impact Statement for the Keystone XL
7 concluded it would increase America's carbon
8 pollution output equivalent to adding 4 million new
9 cars to our roads.

10 President Obama should stay the course and
11 be remembered as the clean car president, not change
12 gears and become the dirty fuels president.

13 President Obama needs to step in on this and make a
14 decision based on the evidence and not allow this
15 decision to be made by the Secretary of State or
16 anyone at the State Department who has obvious
17 conflicts of interest.

18 It's the right thing to do for wildlife,
19 it's the right thing to do for families along the
20 pipeline route, and it's most especially it's the
21 right thing to do for our children's future.

22 I personally witnessed tar sands impacts

23

1 in Canada; saw the unclaimed mining sites that have
2 been talked about here, the polluted rivers, the
3 destruction of Boreal Forest water contamination and
4 air contamination for the First Nations people and
5 more importantly for their future. Keystone XL --

6 MS. COLEMAN: Sir, I regret to say I'm
7 almost out of time here sir.

8 MR. SCHWIGER: Let me conclude by simply
9 saying that this is an important decision for not
10 just America's future but the future of this world
11 and President Obama needs to show leadership on this
12 urgent issue. Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you.

15 MS. EGGEBO: I am Rachel Eggebo from Grand
16 Electric Cooperative in Bison, South Dakota and I am
17 here today to voice my support for the Keystone XL
18 pipeline.

19 I, along with the General Manager and
20 Board of Directors of Grand Electric believe that the
21 pipeline will enhance the development of our natural
22 resources in our area and ensure the development of

23

1 U.S. resources.

2 We believe purchasing oil through
3 TransCanada from a friendly neighboring nation is far
4 better than to continue to purchase oil from
5 unstable, unfriendly Middle East countries.

6 I agree that all safety issues need to be
7 addressed and protocols need to be implemented.
8 However, I also believe that the federal and state
9 agencies have done their job and will place adequate
10 restriction requirements on TransCanada to assure
11 that the pipeline does not pose unreasonable risk or
12 exposure.

13 What does the pipeline do for domestic
14 energy production? In January 2011, TransCanada
15 closed a successful open season which resulted in a
16 long-term commitment of 65,000 barrel of oil per day
17 that will be moved into this pipeline at an on ramp
18 that will be built near Baker, Montana.

19 Those 65,000 barrels of oil will be pumped
20 from Bakken Formation within the Wilerston Basin in
21 North Dakota. In the September 22nd edition of the
22 Oil Pitch Hotline, which is an online newsletter that
23

1 reports on the oil activity in the North Central
2 United States, North Dakota governor, Jack Dalrymple
3 stated that within the next two years North Dakota
4 could be producing as much as 700 barrels of oil per
5 day.

6 If North Dakota does indeed product 700
7 barrels -- 700,000 excuse me -- barrels per day, and
8 25 percent were to be moved into the pipeline, we
9 would be moving approximately 175,000 barrels of
10 North Dakota oil down this pipeline every day.

11 Well, what does this do for South Dakota?
12 While I won't quote the statistics I can say I have
13 personally seen the numbers impacting the State of
14 South Dakota and in terms of increased employment,
15 income, and tax revenue. And it is definitely good
16 for South Dakota. And it is definitely a step
17 towards energy independence and barrels of oil we
18 don't have to purchase from an unstable Middle East
19 country.

20 Therefore, I respectfully urge you to
21 conclude the review process and approve the
22 presidential permit. Thank you.

23

1 (Applause.)

2 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you. So now I would
3 like to call #27 Dave Collyer, #28 Charles Barnard,
4 #29 Doug Hardy, and #30 Jack Orzechowski.

5 MR. COLLYER: Good morning. I am Dave
6 Collyer. I'm the President of the Canadian
7 Association of Petroleum Producers.

8 Let me start by just being very clear
9 about why I am here. It's clearly for the U.S. to
10 decide what is in America's national interest. Our
11 interest is in making sure that this decision is
12 based on objective analysis and is as well informed
13 as possible and in that vein I'd like to offer five
14 points for your consideration.

15 First, in our view, this is not at all
16 about the U.S. using our oil. The question is where
17 is that oil to be sourced from, Canada or elsewhere,
18 and in our opinion, you are much better served by
19 sourcing that increased oil, increased in terms of
20 the proportion of oil that's being used in the U.S.
21 from Canada rather than from foreign sources.

22 Second, this is about energy security for
23

1 North America. Canada has the world's third largest
2 reserves of crude oil, we currently supply about 20%
3 of the U.S. imports, we've got the opportunity to
4 significantly grow that volume over the next 10 to 15
5 years and we would like to do so and we would like to
6 sell it to the United States.

7 Third, this is about job creation. The
8 development of the oil sands and the related
9 infrastructure has the potential and is currently
10 creating tens of thousands of jobs in both Canada and
11 the United States. We've identified in excess of
12 2,400 companies in 49 states of the United States
13 that currently supply goods or services to oil sands
14 development or related infrastructure and there is an
15 opportunity to grow that number with approval of this
16 project.

17 Fourth, this is about continuous
18 improvement in environmental performance. We stand
19 by our record in Canada in the oil and gas industry
20 in terms of environmental performance. We are going
21 to continue to improve that performance and I must --
22 while I fully respect the concerns that have been
23

1 expressed, with respect to health impacts on local
2 communities, I must point out that there have been
3 several reputable health studies conducted with
4 respect to impact of oil sands on the health of local
5 communities and there has been no demonstrated
6 linkage or relationship between the two.

7 (Laughter.)

8 And I also want to highlight that an in
9 dependent crude oil quality analysis that has been
10 conducted by an independent expert has also concluded
11 that oil sands crude quality has no impact, no
12 detrimental impact on pipelines that is any different
13 or can be differentiated from that of other crude
14 quality -- other crudes that are being transported in
15 the U.S.

16 And fifth, this is about a comprehensive
17 federal and provincial regulatory system in Canada.
18 As an industry we're held to a high standard, it is
19 what we expect of ourselves, that's what our
20 government expects and that's what we believe
21 customers in the United States expect and we will
22 continue to be held to that high standard and we will
23

1 continue to perform to that standard.

2 So in closing, in your review of the
3 project's national interest I ask you to consider
4 environmental performance, economic benefits, and
5 energy security and reliability. Our view is that
6 this approach stands up extremely well on all of
7 those counts. We ask you to consider each one of
8 them. Thank you very much.

9 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR. BARNARD: Good morning. My name is
12 Charles Barnard and I'm speaking on my own behalf. I
13 am now from Virginia but I grew up in Northern
14 Montana within 40 miles of Port Morgan where the
15 Keystone XL pipeline is proposed to enter the U.S.

16 I am here today in support of the
17 pipeline. I believe that Keystone XL pipeline is in
18 our country's national interest. It will improve our
19 national security, contribute to a long-term stable
20 energy supply for the United States and create jobs.

21 The pipeline will provide oil to
22 refineries along the Texas Gulf Coast. We do think

23

1 our dependence on oil imports from unreliable
2 overseas sources. By supporting domestic production
3 and by importing oil from Canada instead of from
4 overseas countries, we will strengthen both our
5 national security and our energy security.

6 The pipeline is expected to create
7 thousands of U.S. jobs in the near term as well as
8 provide billions in tax revenue in the corridor
9 states.

10 Keystone XL will join thousands of miles
11 of pipeline already working efficiently and
12 productively in the U.S. Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you.

15 MR. HARDY: Good morning. I'm Doug Hardy.
16 I appreciate the opportunity today. I'm testifying
17 on behalf of myself as a resident of Montana and as a
18 manager of Central Montana Electric Power Cooperative
19 based in Great Falls, Montana, feeding the supply to
20 electric cooperatives.

21 I will not quote the statistics of the
22 tens of thousands of jobs created directly or

23

1 indirectly, but we will share four reasons I believe
2 this pipeline is in the nation's interest. One is
3 energy independence.

4 I'll paraphrase being how t hat was hit
5 fairly hard, that this pipeline is not just about
6 Canadian oil. The on ramp in the Baker area has some
7 of the nicest oil you'll ever like, if you can like
8 oil. It's on ramp, many thousands of barrels a day.
9 We look at that as a way to get that oil to market
10 and decrease our dependence on foreign oil, but
11 clearly, if we can decrease our dependence through
12 less usage, that's great, we still need imports. If
13 we can decrease our usage on more domestic, we still
14 need imports. Let that import come from a friendly
15 nation, one who supports us, not one who wants to see
16 the demise of our society.

17 Affordable energy rates, they drive our
18 economy. Energy prices go up, economy goes down,
19 short of any other factors, jobs are lost when energy
20 prices go up. We've seen that in our area, it's a
21 fact that low cost energy has attracted many, many
22 industries to the Pacific Northwest. From a

1 standpoint of jobs, having affordable energy is just
2 critical to maintain an economy and not lose jobs.

3 On the local level, much of our
4 educational funding in Montana is from property tax
5 from homeowners, from industry all around. The tax
6 basis it would create is tremendous and that dollar
7 not only funds university systems, it funds also the
8 state and local schools and helps the people afford
9 what they are doing and properly educating our
10 country.

11 And in education, it's a never ending
12 issue. Bottom line, tankers bringing oil from other
13 countries, they have environmental risk, but they
14 don't pay any taxes to local communities for our
15 schools.

16 The pipeline brings the oil through and
17 absolutely helps the local schools and county
18 governments that it goes through. And you know, in
19 our area we've got hundreds of easement we haven't
20 condemned. The people have been supportive. It's
21 interesting that we find how unsupportive people are
22 in Montana from people who may have never been there.

23

1 Lastly, its jobs as it relates to family,
2 my very last point, and it's critical to me. I'm not
3 expert as what to say, what brings self-esteem to a
4 person, to be a good member of their family, I do
5 know I've seen people that appear to have very high
6 self esteem, that are wonderful productive members of
7 the society who, upon a job loss, loose self esteem
8 and are no longer as productive in society and a weak
9 economy give societal problems all over the place in
10 regards to self esteem.

11 I want my daughters, my grandkids to have
12 jobs that are quality, as we ramp ourselves to more
13 independence. Thank you very much.

14 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much.

15 (Applause.)

16 MS. COLEMAN: Yes. Now we would like to
17 call Father Jack Orzechowski.

18 FATHER JACK ORZECHOUSKI: I'm the
19 Franciscan Fryer representing the Franciscan Action
20 Network, which is a leading Franciscan voice in the
21 United States advocating for social and environmental
22

1 justice. I'm also representing the National
2 Interfaith Power and Light.

3 Both of these organizations oppose
4 granting the permit for the Keystone XL pipeline. We
5 find this project morally indefensible. The tar
6 sands project will lead to a massive expansion of the
7 extraction of the nonconventional fossil fuels.

8 This is very dangerous move. Our
9 prolonged addiction to dirty fossil fuel has put us
10 on the cusp of radical and irreversible changes to
11 earth's atmosphere. We are already witnessing
12 glaciers melting, sea level rising, increased storms,
13 floods, draughts, millions of people being displaced,
14 rapid loss of biodiversity. The survival of billions
15 of people is at stake, also as much as half of the
16 earth species are being wiped out -- can be wiped out
17 by the end of the century.

18 There is another reason why the tar sands
19 pipeline is morally inexcusable. It will endanger
20 the indigenous community, threaten one of the largest
21 Aquifer in our continent and imperil the lives of the
22 people that depend on it.

1 Also, it is the poor, the vulnerable and
2 the voiceless that are bearing the brunt of the
3 global climate change that will be greatly
4 intensified by the full scale tar sands operation.

5 As many as 600 million people could face
6 malnutrition and hunger all over the world.
7 Approving the Keystone XL pipeline runs the risk of
8 condemning the poorest of the world to desperate
9 struggle for food and survival.

10 A Franciscan tradition holds out the
11 sacredness of all live. God's creation has a
12 profound value and meaning. We human share with the
13 rest of God's creation, not only the common origin,
14 but also destiny. The Judeo-Christian tradition
15 teaches that human family can find true peace,
16 security, only when we live together as brothers and
17 sisters in integrity, in justice, in harmony with the
18 earth.

19 A debate over the Keystone XL pipeline
20 ought to be formed by the values of love, of
21 solidarity, of special concern for the poor and most
22 vulnerable, the common good of all God's creation.

23

1 The Keystone XL pipeline is being framed as a
2 solution to America's energy needs that would spur
3 job creation. It is a dangerous mirage. The economy
4 exists within the limits of the natural world.

5 MS. COLEMAN: Sir -- Father I mean. The
6 time is coming to an end.

7 FATHER JACK ORZECHOUSKI: Yes.

8 MS. COLEMAN: I would invite you to put
9 your comments on the table.

10 FATHER JACK ORZECHOUSKI: In conclusion on
11 behalf of the Franciscan Action Network and
12 Interfaith Power Light, I urge the State Department
13 and President Obama to deny the permit for the tar
14 sands pipeline. Prolonging our deadly addiction to
15 dirty fossil fuel would be devastating for life on
16 the planet, for people, and the economy. This is
17 immoral and is not in the national interest of the
18 United States. Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. Now
21 #31 Mari Castellanos, #32 Jane Kleebe, #33 Yiming
22 Roberts, and #34 Kate Simolski. Thank you.

23

1 MS. CASTELLANOS: Buenos Dias. Thank you
2 for the opportunity to speak at this hearing. I am
3 Dr. Mari Castellanos and I am a Christian Minister in
4 the United Church of Christ.

5 I come not only as a clergy person, but as
6 a former scientist, a bird watcher, and someone who
7 passionately loves God's blessed creation. I also
8 come on behalf of the many children whom I dearly
9 love. I want them to enjoy nature and all of the
10 creator order as I have in all the glory and beauty
11 that God made.

12 In a recent letter to President Obama nine
13 nobel peace laureates wrote, "the night you were
14 nominated for President, you told the world that
15 under your leadership the rise of the ocean will
16 begin to slow and the planet will begin to heal." If
17 the President consents to the Keystone XL pipeline,
18 he will break not only his promise but the hearts of
19 millions as well.

20 When I studied moral theology or Christian
21 ethics, we were taught to look at issues through
22 several criteria and different lenses. I can assure
23

1 you that this issue, as Father just explained so
2 well, it fails at every angle and under every
3 criterion.

4 How can the destruction of the Boreal
5 Forest, the lungs of North America, for the sake of
6 profit, be ethical? How can we justify pushing all
7 the birds that nest in that forest to extinction,
8 which will surely happen because so many of them are
9 already threatened, or endangering the source of
10 drinking water for millions of people? Or endorsing
11 an extraction process that causes high levels of
12 greenhouse gas pollution, and leaves behind enormous
13 deposits of toxic waste and is permeated by the
14 stench of corporate greed?

15 This is not moral, this is not ethical,
16 this is not who we are. As a nation we like to think
17 of ourselves as a high moral ground people.
18 Approving this pipeline will surely question our
19 perception of ourselves.

20 Over this year 4th of July weekend a 12-
21 inch Exxon Mobile pipeline broke at the bottom of the
22 Yellowstone River, spilling crude that cover more
23

1 than miles of the fame waterway.

2 What was an oil pipeline doing beneath the
3 Yellowstone River? I frantically asked and found out
4 --

5 MS. COLEMAN: Yes, unfortunately our time
6 is at an end. May I ask that you finish off with a
7 sentence.

8 MS. CASTELLANOS: I would like to say,
9 there is a racial divide in this room and it breaks
10 my heart because study after study, sponsored by my
11 church, the United Church of Christ, tells you that
12 the waste of all toxic development, usually winds up
13 in African American and Latin and Native American
14 communities. Don't allow a false sense of gain to
15 divide the people of color on this issue. We always
16 stand to lose.

17 (Applause.)

18 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much.

19 MS. KLEEB: Hello, my name is Jane Kleeb
20 and I am from Hastings, Nebraska. I stand here today
21 with the daughter of a rancher who I hope you will
22 allow me to split my time with. We are the pipeline
23

1 fighters. We are the sand hills lovers. We are the
2 Ogallala Aquifer lovers and we are begging you, not
3 asking, we are begging you to deny this pipeline
4 permit.

5 Every day we fight and ask our elected
6 officials to stand up for us, to do the right thing
7 and change the path of this pipeline. It is going
8 through the most fragile part of our state, the sand
9 hills and it is crushing through the Ogallala
10 Aquifer, which provides drinking water for not only
11 our state, but for the very food that we eat every
12 day for the farmers and ranchers.

13 And so we are begging, do not stand with
14 the foreign oil corporation, stand with Americans,
15 stand with Nebraskans, stand with our families and
16 please deny this permit.

17 (Applause.)

18 MS. LUEBBE: Hi, my name is Laura Luebbe.
19 I live on my ranch south of Stewart, Nebraska and I
20 know for many of the people in here, home is the
21 place where you go, it's your sanctuary, it's your
22 safe place, it's where you can be yourself and to
23

1 have a foreign company come in and try to take that
2 away from you and everything you have and you live
3 for and you work so hard to make it throughout life,
4 and they try to take it away, it really hurts, and
5 these workers sit here and laugh and boo, it really
6 hurts that they think they can do that and you don't
7 realize how hard we work to get them food, to give
8 ourselves food and make a living.

9 I know everybody works hard but it's not
10 the easiest job in the world. I do the best I can to
11 work out there and make a living for myself. I pay
12 my own cell phone bill, I pay for my contact,
13 everything, and I work for that, and I know we all
14 work in here for money and stuff, but there is so
15 many other ways and better jobs we can do than put a
16 pipeline that's just going to hurt America and cause
17 health problems and stuff like cancer.

18 I don't want to have to deal with that, I
19 really don't. So I urge the President and Hillary
20 Clinton not to put this pipeline in. Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much.

23

1 MS. CLAB: And we will submit this arm
2 band and you can boo all you want, but we will submit
3 this arm band for Secretary Clinton and President
4 Obama to join us and be pipeline fighters and be sand
5 hill lovers and be Ogallala Aquifer lovers. We're
6 depending on you, we're counting on you.

7 (Applause.)

8 MS. ROBERTS: Good evening. My name is
9 Yiming Roberts and I'm here today as a citizen,
10 concerned about the future of my country and
11 particularly about the world that my two and a half
12 year old niece will inherit.

13 After hearing the stories of people who
14 have been suffering from and fighting the tar sands
15 development, which is endangering their way of life,
16 as well as the fact that NASA Scientist Dr. James
17 Hansen has called development of the tar sands game
18 over for the climate, I knew I had to take a stand.

19 Along with 1,252 other people, I was
20 arrested outside the White House last month, to let
21 President Obama know I want him to say no to the
22 Keystone XL pipeline. I traveled to Ottawa to
23

1 support our friends in Canada who are fighting the
2 Keystone XL and the dirty, dangerous tar sands
3 development.

4 There is a lot at stake here today. We
5 are at a critical juncture and we have a great
6 opportunity to change the path we've been on.
7 Approving the Keystone XL pipeline would perpetuate
8 the broken system in which corporations do not seek
9 consent to extract wealth from the people and form
10 the earth.

11 In this dirty fossil fuel based system,
12 profit is prioritized over people and the self-
13 interest of corporations over justice for all.

14 Building this pipeline creates clear
15 winners and losers. The winners are the tar sands
16 industry and their investors, and the losers are the
17 rest of us, our children, future generations, and all
18 live on the planet.

19 Many people, including Presidents Bush and
20 Obama have discussed our addiction to oil. The way
21 to cure an addict is not by giving them an even low
22 grade, dirtier version of their drug of choice,

23

1 renewable energy is clearly the better option.

2 We don't need to wait 20 years to deploy a
3 silver bullet technology, we can deploy currently
4 existing technologies. We simply need the political
5 will to make the necessary changes equal to the
6 magnitude of the problem.

7 No one can deny the tremendous power of
8 the fossil fuel industry. The industry takes
9 generous taxpayer subsidies and repays the public by
10 giving our children asthma, poisoned water, polluted
11 air, misinformation campaigns and irreversible
12 climate change.

13 This influence extends beyond human and
14 environmental impacts reaching into our political
15 process. Cardno Entrix, a contractor for TransCanada
16 ran the public hearings along the proposed routes of
17 the pipeline. This same contractor even drafted the
18 State Department's Environmental Impact Statement, an
19 obvious conflict of interest.

20 The future that we will all share depends
21 upon the moral choices that are made today. As you
22 take this opportunity to set the U.S. on a renewable

23

1 energy path, by rejecting the Keystone XL pipeline
2 remember, ecology is the foundation for our economy
3 and all life. Say no to the Keystone XL pipeline and
4 move us toward a just and equitable future for all.
5 Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much.

8 Please.

9 MS. CASEY-LEFKOWITZ: Thank you. The
10 person who held #34 has ceded their place to me. My
11 name is Susan Casey-Lefkowitz and I am here
12 representing the 1.3 million members and activists of
13 the Natural Resources Defense Council, and I want to
14 first applaud the many speakers that we've heard
15 today. These are clearly deep issues on both sides
16 that a pipeline like this raises up.

17 And I'm going to speak to just one very
18 specific point and that is that yesterday, 218
19 business leaders from across the country sent a
20 letter to President Obama calling on him to reject
21 the Keystone XL tar sands pipeline as not being in
22 our economic interest.

23

1 Business leaders and investors with a
2 stake in the clean energy economy are sending a clear
3 message. The Keystone XL tar sands pipeline will
4 undermine our efforts to move forward with clean
5 energy, jobs, and investments.

6 It is not in our economic interest to
7 support expansion of the tar sands oil industry.
8 Providing input into the national interest
9 determination process around the pipeline in this
10 letter, these business leaders find, "permitting the
11 Keystone XL pipeline is a long-term investment in tar
12 sands oil, one of the most carbon and water intensive
13 fuels under development. If constructed, this
14 pipeline will undermine the U.S. commitment to a
15 transition to a clean and sustainable energy future.

16 The letter provides a solution. We urge
17 you to reject projects that are so detrimental to
18 America's clean energy economy by finding that the
19 Keystone XL tar sands pipeline is not in our national
20 interest."

21 Coming from business owners, investors,
22 economists, and many others who are deeply committed

1 to America's clean energy economy. This letter
2 should carry a lot of weight in this national
3 interest determination process.

4 The signatories of the letter are members
5 of a group called Environmental Entrepreneurs or E2,
6 with which the Natural Resources Defense Council
7 works very closely.

8 E2 is a non-partisan, national community
9 of members who manage over \$90 billion in private
10 equity capital that nourishes our economy. E2
11 members have a real stake in this issue, they are the
12 ones on the front lines in the United States helping
13 us to achieve a clean energy economy, by investing in
14 companies and creating jobs.

15 E2 members are concerned with tar sands
16 expansion. America will be going after a source of
17 oil that as you have heard, actually undermines jobs
18 in our country. They're concerned that tar sands
19 will increase our dependence on ever more expensive
20 and risky forms of oil and they are concerned that
21 despite the energy security arguments made by the
22 pipeline proponents, this pipeline actually endangers

23

1 American economic interests by exporting tar sands
2 abroad.

3 And they know from their own investments
4 and experience that this is the time for us to stay
5 committed to American ingenuity and American clean
6 energy, businesses, jobs, and investments.

7 The business community is sending a clear
8 message to the Administration. Thank you so much for
9 listening and we will be submitting the letter for
10 the record.

11 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much.

12 (Applause.)

13 MS. COLEMAN: Now we're going to call #35
14 Bill Erasmus and then #36 Tiernan Sittenfeld, #37
15 John Elwood, and #38 Lara Skinner. Thank you.

16 MR. ERASMUS: Thank you Madam Chair. My
17 name is Bill Erasmus. I am Chief of the Dene Nation.
18 I come from Northern Canada, north of the tar sands
19 development. We are downstream.

20 We have 30 communities and the population
21 of our area is approximately 50,000 people. We are
22 party to peace and friendship treaties with Great

23

1 Britain. As original peoples we entered into those
2 agreements because Canada as a young country didn't
3 have the authority to sign the treaties.

4 Canada is a part of the commonwealth and
5 they have to adhere to the legal agreements that we
6 have and in fact the resource that you talk about
7 here is still in question because when we entered
8 into those agreements there were peace and
9 friendship, we never extinguished the oil or the
10 other resources that are on those lands and those are
11 part of treaty #8 which I am a member of.

12 Thank you for this opportunity. I want to
13 present to you, when I'm finished, an Accord that was
14 put together. It's called the Mother Earth Accord.

15 It was put together a month ago on the Rosebud Indian
16 Reservation with tribal leaders, First Nation leaders
17 from the Canada side and property owners from the
18 U.S., because of the concern that we have.

19 Attached to this there are 60 to 70
20 endorsement letters and support from across the
21 country and actually internationally. The Accord
22 outlines our concerns so I will give that to you

23

1 formally.

2 What I want to say is that we have some of
3 the largest fresh water in the world, where we come
4 from. As I said, the water comes downstream from the
5 tar sands and what happens through the process is
6 that a large amount of water is used to process the
7 oil and the water then is no longer useable
8 afterwards because it's put into tailings ponds with
9 very toxic waste, which is then leached into the
10 environment, come downstream to us.

11 We're finding with the amount of water
12 used, our water levels have dropped at least 10 feet.
13 We also are very concerned about the quality, and
14 other people have spoken to that.

15 What we want to say is that this is not in
16 the Canadian interest, this is not in the American
17 interest, in our view, this oil will go to the
18 refineries in Texas and then out to the world to the
19 highest bidders. That doesn't assist any of us.

20 We believe that President Obama has an
21 opportunity here to put the Bush Administration plans
22 aside and to begin in a new way.

23

1 And the final point I'd like to make is
2 that we are very concerned that the Canadian industry
3 and the Canadian government in particular are
4 promoting this project. They should not be doing
5 that. If this project is sound and has merit, it
6 will stand on its own. Thank you very much.

7 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much.

8 (Applause.)

9 MS. SITTENFELD: My name is Tiernan
10 Sittenfeld and I am the Senior Vice President for
11 Government Affairs with the League of Conservation
12 Voters which works to turn environmental values into
13 national priorities. Thank you for the opportunity
14 to testify today on behalf of our members across the
15 country.

16 LCV joins mayors, scientists, Nobel Peace
17 laureates, unions, landowners, religious leaders, and
18 millions of others from across the country in urging
19 the State Department to deny the permit to build the
20 Keystone XL pipeline.

21 This harmful pipeline would transport tar
22 sands oil, the dirtiest oil on the planet, which is

23

1 why as I speak, there is a large rally right outside
2 this very building to protest its construction.

3 This pipeline would threaten the
4 environment with far more global warming pollution
5 than conventional crude oil. It is in direct
6 conflict with the many positive steps this
7 administration is taking to reduce global warming
8 pollution.

9 For example, the Environmental Protection
10 Agency has estimated that this pipeline could add an
11 additional 27 million metric tons of greenhouse gases
12 into the atmosphere in 2018, which is like adding an
13 additional 4.8 million cars to the road.

14 This would clearly offset the emissions
15 reduction achieved by the EPA's recently proposed
16 tailpipe standards for medium and light duty trucks.

17 In addition to being disastrous when it
18 comes to combating global climate change, this
19 pipeline would also jeopardize surrounding
20 communities, ecosystems and watersheds.

21 There have been all too many recent
22 reminders of the threats from oil spills which are

23

1 exacerbated by tar sands oil since it is more
2 corrosive and abrasive than conventional crude oil.

3 For example, the original Keystone
4 pipeline has already had at least 14 spills in the
5 United States and 19 in Canada. A serious spill
6 could contaminate the Midwest Ogallala Aquifer which
7 others have already spoken so eloquently about.

8 For the reasons I have mentioned and for
9 so many others, this pipeline is simply not in the
10 national interest. To the contrary, it is just
11 another harmful proposal pushed by big oil and its
12 allies in Congress in order to promote the failed
13 energy policy of the past rather than pursuing clean
14 energy solution that will create jobs, improve our
15 national security, and protect the planet from global
16 warming pollution.

17 It is time to break our dependence on
18 dirty and dangerous fossil fuels once and for all.
19 We urge the State Department to deny TransCanada's
20 permit to build the Keystone XL tar sands pipeline.
21 Thank you.

22 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much.

1 (Applause.)

2 MR. ELWOOD: Good afternoon. My name is
3 John Elwood. I am an Evangelical Christian, an Elder
4 of the Presbyterian Church in American, a Board
5 Member of the Evangelical Environmental Network and
6 today I represent the MICA Institute, Greenfaith New
7 Jersey and National Interfaith Power and Light.

8 Roughly 100 million Americans identify
9 themselves as Evangelicals. We believe that the
10 Gospel compels us to care for the created world that
11 God created all things, that He made mankind with a
12 special mandate to care for all that he has made.

13 That the creation, whether pure or
14 despoiled, is the inheritance of our Lord Jesus
15 Christ and in a world where degradation of the world
16 is responsible for much hunger, sickness, and
17 conflict, we hear the command of Jesus to serve the
18 hungry, the homeless, and the oppressed as the least
19 of these brothers of mine.

20 For these reasons, our faith compels us to
21 urge our leaders as we follow Christ, not to proceed
22 with the proposed pipeline project. We take this

23

1 position for the following reasons:

2 First, the exploitation of the tar sands
3 threatens to severely harm human health, especially
4 amongst indigenous peoples both by the devastation of
5 vast tracks of Canadian ancestral lands and waterways
6 and by highly likely future threats to American
7 waterways and Aquifers.

8 Second, the tar sands are among the most
9 carbon polluting of any fuels known to man. With
10 lifecycle greenhouse gases that the EPA has estimated
11 to be roughly 82% greater than comparable emissions
12 from conventional petroleum. As such, they harm
13 vulnerable people all over the earth.

14 Third, at a time when we need to invest
15 heavily in non-carbon polluting energy solutions, the
16 last gasp exploitation of nonconventional fuels such
17 as the tar sands, represents a huge step backward.
18 Wedding our economies to unusually dirty fuels for
19 generations.

20 Fourth, without this pipeline the damage
21 from tar sands operations will be restricted for
22 years into the future. Its expansion depends on this

23

1 project.

2 Fifth, the job creation and the energy
3 independence touted by promoters of the pipeline are
4 illusory. Among scores of flaws they ignore the job-
5 killing impacts of increasing severe droughts and
6 floods and the clearly stated plans by multi-national
7 oil companies to export the tar sands products, not
8 used them in the United States.

9 When we consider these factors, the
10 Keystone XL pipeline directly or indirectly
11 contributes to results which are contrary to the
12 Kingdom of God. Harming his creation and threatening
13 the balances through which He has blessed the earth
14 and its people. Thank you very much.

15 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you for your comments.

16 (Applause.)

17 MS. SKINNER: Hi, my name is Dr. Lara
18 Skinner. I am with Cornell University's Global Labor
19 Institute School of Industrial and Labor Relations.
20 Thank you for the opportunity to speak today.

21 Cornell released a report last week
22 examining the jobs claims by TransCanada Corporation

23

1 and the American Petroleum Institute.

2 TransCanada, the American Petroleum
3 Institute and other proponents of the pipeline claim
4 Keystone XL is a \$7 billion project that will create
5 20,000 direct construction and manufacturing jobs and
6 119,000 indirect jobs.

7 However, Cornell's analysis of Keystone XL
8 has found that TransCanada's numbers are
9 unsubstantiated and that the project will produce far
10 fewer jobs than they claim. In fact, Cornell's
11 careful and more comprehensive analysis reveals that
12 construction of Keystone XL may destroy more jobs
13 than it creates.

14 I want to underscore four main points that
15 explain why construction of Keystone XL may destroy
16 more jobs than it creates.

17 First, TransCanada claims that Keystone XL
18 is a \$7 billion project. Actually Keystone XL U.S.
19 project budget is only \$3.3 billion. TransCanada has
20 inflated the U.S. project budget by including \$1.6
21 billion that will be spent in Canada and
22 approximately \$2.6 billion that has already been

23

1 spent or committed for the project.

2 In reality, Keystone U.S. project budget
3 is less than half what TransCanada claims and this
4 means a lot less jobs will be created.

5 Second, steel pipe is the main material
6 input for Keystone XL. To date, TransCanada has
7 already manufactured almost 50% of the pipe outside
8 of the U.S. even though they claim Keystone XL will
9 create 7,000 manufacturing jobs in the U.S.

10 TransCanada has made a significant
11 investment in the pipe for Keystone XL that is
12 largely creating economic activity and jobs outside
13 of the U.s.

14 Third, according to TransCanada own data
15 supplied to the State Department, the project will
16 create no more than 2,500 to 4,650 temporary direct
17 construction jobs for two years and only 10 to 15
18 percent of the total Keystone XL workforce will be
19 hired locally.

20 Fourth, because of the pipeline, Midwest
21 consumers will pay 10 to 20 cents more per gallon of
22 gas and fuel, totaling two to four billion additional

23

1 cost to Midwest economies. Just one year of fuel
2 price increases as a result of Keystone XL diverting
3 oil from Midwest to Gulf Coast refineries would
4 cancel out some or all of the jobs created by the
5 project.

6 TransCanada has also ignored and dismissed
7 fears that Keystone XL will have a serious impact on
8 our environment and our economy through spills,
9 spills into freshwater supplies or increases in
10 greenhouse gases and other pollutant. Put simply,
11 pipeline spills, pollution and climate change incur
12 huge costs and destroy jobs.

13 I want to conclude by saying that the
14 number of jobs that could be created by the
15 construction of Keystone XL is by no means
16 insignificant especially to the working people that
17 receive these jobs. However, the U.S. is currently
18 facing a serious unemployment problem and this
19 problem should not be trivialized by TransCanada
20 Corporation vastly overstating the number of jobs
21 that will be created by Keystone XL.

22 (Applause.)

1 MS. COLEMAN: Ma'am if you could.

2 MS. SKINNER: TransCanada and other
3 proponents of Keystone XL have done an injustice to
4 the American public by raising expectations for jobs
5 that simply cannot be met. The U.S. needs a jobs
6 plan but Keystone XL is not it. Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. Now
9 I'd like to call #39 Susan Connolly, #40 Marty
10 Cobenais, #41 Deborah Lynn, and #42 David Friedman.
11 Thank you.

12 MS. CONNOLLY: I am Susan Connolly, a
13 resident of Marshall, Michigan, where close to 1
14 million gallon of tar sands crude spilled in Talmadge
15 Creek in the Kalamazoo River.

16 I'm here today as the voice of the
17 communities that have been affected by this spill.
18 The spill occurred right in the middle of some of the
19 most sensitive wetland areas in the state. I'd like
20 to present a CD to you that illustrates the impact of
21 a tar sands spill.

22 Fourteen months have passed with questions
23

1 left unanswered and residents concerns lingered to
2 this day. When, it's not a matter of if, but when,
3 when will the next pipeline break occur and where.
4 These questions must be on your minds.

5 When a spill occurred, first responders,
6 health officials were caught off guard. A lack of
7 training, lack of communication, and the failure to
8 properly evacuate residents, coupled with all of the
9 unknowns, led to this tragic event.

10 I say unknown because this spill was the
11 first of its kind. I find it unconstitutional that
12 the health and wellbeing of the environment and our
13 citizens and my children have been set aside for the
14 sake of the transportation of tar sands oil.

15 When spills occur, and accusatory finger
16 is pointed at the pipeline company but should be
17 focused toward our government as well. State and
18 federal government fail to protect the people and the
19 environment. The Department of Transportation was
20 aware of violations eight years prior to the Michigan
21 spill. What good are corrective action orders if
22 they are not enforced? It's a shared negligence.

1 I ask you why, why would you approve the
2 construction of yet another pipeline when the
3 existing line possess defects that have not been
4 corrected and are regulated by federal policies that
5 are lacking.

6 Why? Why would our government allow
7 materials like tar sands crude to flow through
8 pipelines, new or old, when no one has anyone idea
9 how to clean it up? They're still trying to figure
10 out to this day in our town.

11 Questions, fears related to long-term
12 health, the destruction of our ecosystem and the
13 potential effects for our infrastructure are all on
14 the list of unknowns.

15 Before you vote on the Keystone pipeline,
16 I invite each and every one of you and your families
17 and your children, please come to Michigan, come to
18 my hometown, look at our river, look what it has
19 become, I ask you to walk on our riverbank, swim in
20 our river, and then tell me how safe you feel. Thank
21 you for your time.

22 (Applause.)

23

1 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much.

2 MR. COBENAIS: My name is Marty Cobenais.

3 I am the pipeline organizer for the Indigenous
4 Environmental Network, based up in Bemidji,
5 Minnesota. Indigenous tribes in the U.S. and Canada
6 stand united in opposition to the Keystone XL
7 pipeline. We have created the Mother Earth Accord
8 that Chief Bill Erasmus earlier presented to you in
9 which support has come from national, regional, and
10 individual tribes, along with numerous individuals
11 from Nebraska, basically all of Holt County, Nebraska
12 has signed the Agreement.

13 Yesterday we met with the State Department
14 Assistant Secretary Dr. Kerry Ann Jones, who told us
15 that they were having an independent risk assessment
16 being conducted on this Keystone XL pipeline. We see
17 this as a direct result of recent allegations and e-
18 mails of corruption between the State Department and
19 the applicant, TransCanada.

20 The State Department would not give us any
21 other further information such as who is doing this
22 assessment, if the results would be made public for

23

1 comment, but they did state that the results would be
2 completed prior to the presidential permit decision
3 is decided.

4 If this is truly a transparent good will
5 offering, these results should be made public and we
6 should have comments, have the ability to have
7 comments on it before the decision is made.

8 In accordance with the United Nations
9 declaration of the indigenous race and the executive
10 order by President Obama, there is supposed to be
11 free and prior consent with tribes. This has not
12 happened in the United States with the State
13 Department yet on this issue.

14 The State Department has failed to meet in
15 commitment with tribes along the route. The State
16 Department has threatened to withhold funds for
17 tribes to have monitors on the pipeline route if they
18 did not concur with the program agreement.

19 They have also failed to meet on
20 government to government level with Lakota, Dakota,
21 and Nakota tribes in the South Dakota, about the
22 water pipeline that Deb White Plume talked about

1 earlier that supplies water to tribes in rural
2 communities in South Dakota where water is already
3 polluted from years of uranium mining.

4 Ogallala President John Yellowbird Steel
5 questioned if the tribe would be held liable if the
6 water pipeline was polluted by oil pipeline. He did
7 not receive an answer.

8 In the words of the Great Chief Red Cloud,
9 they have made many promises to us, more than I can
10 remember, but they kept one, they promised to take
11 our land, and they did. We also like to make it know
12 that we, the Indians, stand in unity with the
13 cowboys, the ranchers, and the farmers along the
14 proposed routes. We sympathize with them as they are
15 the modern day Indians. Their land is being taken
16 away for pennies on the dollar just as ours was.

17 We feel that the State Department is
18 backed into a corner right now with all the
19 corruption allegations and with the failure to meet
20 with tribal governments on this issue.

21 Therefore, the only way to clear them of
22 themselves and with the Nation, is to deny the
23

1 presidential permit and to say no to the keystone XL
2 pipeline. Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much.

5 MR. KOHL-RIGGS: Hi, there was a mix-up
6 with the numbers. I am #41, my name is Arthur Kohl-
7 Riggs.

8 MS. COLEMAN: Could you spell your last
9 name please, thank you.

10 MR. KOHL-RIGGS: KOHL-RIGGS.

11 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you.

12 MR. KOHL-RIGGS: I have four main points,
13 but first I would like to thank the gentleman from
14 Montana with the fun hat, for his honesty. I am
15 pleased that he said what many others have a hard
16 time saying. Those wars we are fighting, they are
17 about the oil.

18 Labor community members here today, I am
19 from Wisconsin. I occupy our state capitol for three
20 weeks fighting Scott Walker's attack on the workers
21 and the Wisconsin people and I have fought every day
22 for the past seven months for your rights.

23

1 You are being lied to and used. This
2 pipeline is a dangerous, violent substitution for the
3 millions of clean energy jobs we were promised and
4 desperately need in this country. If you want
5 sustainable long-term jobs, this is the wrong
6 project.

7 I have been to Ft. McMurray in Alberta,
8 Canada where most of the tar sands extraction takes
9 place. Simply being in the area made me sick. I'm
10 not saying that as a metaphor or hyperbole, it made
11 me literally sick. Go there, drink the water and
12 breathe the air and I promise you will become sick as
13 well.

14 Obama, in your campaign you promised me a
15 clean energy future. That future is impossible if
16 this proposed pipeline becomes a reality. This
17 pipeline will solidify our addiction to dirty fossil
18 fuels. Obama, please uphold the very vocal promise
19 you made to me, and millions of others when you
20 campaigned for my vote. A clean energy future takes
21 real change and leadership now.

22 Finally, I said I was from Wisconsin and
23

1 right now there is an ongoing John Doe FBI
2 investigation about the pay to play politics and the
3 inappropriate corporate cronyism of Scott Walker and
4 his administration.

5 Secretary Clinton, I would have thought
6 you were above that type of leadership. Your
7 personal and professional relationships with
8 TransCanada are inappropriate. Regardless if this
9 pipeline is in the nation's best interest, it is
10 definitely a definitely a conflict of your interest.
11 Arrest Scott Walker, deny this pipeline. Thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you.

14 MR. FRIEDMAN: Good morning. My name is
15 David Friedman. I am with the National Petrochemical
16 Refiners Association, otherwise known as NPRA. NPRA
17 appreciates the opportunity this morning to provide
18 comments in the Keystone XL pipeline project. NPRA
19 represents more than 450 businesses including
20 virtually all U.S. refineries and petrochemical
21 manufacturers, their suppliers, and vendors.

22 Our members supply consumers with a wide
23

1 variety of products used daily in their homes and
2 businesses including fuels, lubricants, and chemicals
3 that serves building blocks from everything from
4 plastics to clothing to medicine to computers.

5 NPRA supports the Keystone XL pipeline
6 project because it would strengthen our country's
7 national and economic security. Our members depend
8 on a secure and reliable supply of crude oil and as
9 the first purchases of oil in the market, are
10 significantly affected by volatile crude prices.

11 Despite advancements in other forms of
12 energy, everyone agrees the United States and the
13 rest of the world will continue to rely on petroleum
14 in the distant future. As our economy continues to
15 struggle out of the recession, the Keystone XL
16 pipeline will create and sustain thousands of U.S.
17 jobs and benefit local communities through increased
18 business activity and tax revenue.

19 The Canadian Energy Research Institute
20 estimates the pipeline would provide close to 85,000
21 U.S. jobs by 2020 and could support 465,000 jobs by
22 2035. Also, as Americans struggle to fill their gas

1 tanks, the completion of the Keystone XL pipeline can
2 make an important contribution to lowering oil cost
3 by increasing the crude supplies in North America.

4 Canada is currently the largest source of
5 petroleum imports to the United States, providing
6 nearly two million barrels of oil per day. The
7 proposed Keystone XL pipeline expansion allows to
8 increase these imports from a North American ally by
9 more than 500,000 barrels per day.

10 Allowing U.S. refineries to use more
11 Canadian crude will make our nation less reliant on
12 oil imports from unstable regions of the world and
13 less vulnerable to potential supply disruptions.

14 If America chooses not to accept the
15 Canadian oil, China and other nations across the
16 Pacific will be more than happy to buy it. That
17 would require shipping Canadian oil across the ocean
18 and would force the United States to ship in more oil
19 from elsewhere.

20 This transoceanic traffic would cause a
21 lot more energy and would increase the carbon
22 footprint of transporting the oil which will actually

1 increase global GHG emissions.

2 For all these reasons, getting more oil
3 from Canada makes sense. If we turn our back on this
4 important source of energy, we will be imposing
5 economic sanctions on ourselves. Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. Now I
8 would like to call the next four, this looks like
9 Joelle Novey, #44 Danielle Droitsch, #45 Dean
10 Hubbard, and #46 Lorne Stockman. Thank you.

11 MS. NOVEY: Joelle Novey with Interfaith
12 Power and Light. Through Interfaith Power and Light,
13 14,000 congregations of all religious traditions
14 around the country work together on energy and
15 climate issues and I am submitting into the record
16 today, hundreds of comment cards from local churches
17 and synagogues where good folks have concluded that
18 the Keystone XL pipeline would do great harm and that
19 their religious traditions call them to speak out.

20 These cards join thousands of online
21 comments sent from religious folks around the country
22 and they join the testimony of religious leaders at

23

1 previous hearings in Kansas, Nebraska, and Texas.

2 When the sun sets this evening, I will
3 join millions of Jewish Americans in marking the
4 holiest day of our year, Yom Kippur, the Day of
5 Atonement. For me, this is a day to tune out
6 distractions and to be honest with myself about
7 whether or not I am on the right path.

8 A New York Times editorial this week spoke
9 against the Keystone XL pipeline. The paper cited
10 concerns I share about the damage tar sands
11 extraction does to Canada's Boreal Forest and the
12 risks the pipeline poses to America's drinking water.

13 But the editorial concluded with a larger
14 question: should this country keep conducting
15 business as usual or will we seriously grapple with
16 the reality of climate change? This is the choice
17 before you today. This is our nation's Yom Kippur
18 moment.

19 The concentrations of heat-trapping gases
20 in our atmosphere are already higher than they have
21 been in hundreds of thousands of years and warming
22 temperatures are already causing stronger storms,

23

1 devastating droughts and great suffering all around
2 the world.

3 The path we are on is treacherous. If we
4 build this pipeline to extract every last drop of oil
5 from the tar sands and push the concentration of
6 pollution in our atmosphere to the point that we
7 permanently damage our earth's climate, any arguments
8 you have heard today in support of the pipeline
9 short-term benefits will pale in comparison.

10 (Applause.)

11 The human suffering that will be caused by
12 our nation continuing along the fossil fuel path we
13 are on is catastrophic. Every single person who
14 works at the State Department is also a human being
15 who lives on earth and who hopes for their children
16 and grandchildren to also live on earth.

17 You surely know in your hearts that at
18 some point our nation will be forced to shift away
19 from dirty fuels, no matter which foreign corporation
20 stand to benefit from further delay and to turn
21 instead towards investing in clean energy and
22 repairing our climate.

23

1 But it matters when we make that decision.

2 As Bill McGiven has said, physics and chemistry don't
3 bargain. They don't give us much time and they're
4 bad at haggling. We cannot wait to turn back until
5 after this pipeline is built. We must turn back
6 beforehand.

7 On this Yom Kippur, this day of moral
8 clarity, please tune out distractions, please have
9 the integrity instead to simply make the right
10 decision for the people of the United States and the
11 people of the world. Please do not approve the
12 Keystone XL pipeline.

13 (Applause.)

14 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you.

15 MS. KAPLAN: I traded an earlier spot to
16 speak now. I am Ruth Kaplan. I am a Past National
17 Energy Committee Chair for the Sierra Club and I
18 chair national campaign defending water for life for
19 the Alliance for Democracy.

20 I'm not here today to argue about psi
21 pressure or parts per million, I'm not here today to
22 say move the pipeline one mile in one direction or

23

1 the other, I'm not here to say put the inspectors
2 along the pipeline every 10 miles or every 1 mile, I
3 am here today to speak for my godson, for my
4 grandson, for Malia, for Sasha and for Chelsea.

5 And so I will read to you part of what my
6 godson's mother wrote. After being arrested in front
7 of the White House, protesting the pipeline, a few
8 days before I, too was arrested. She said, as I
9 stood before the White House gates, listening to the
10 police issue their warnings of our impending arrest,
11 to our group of over 100 demonstrators, I thought I
12 would say as they kept carting me away, what cry I
13 wanted the President to hear and I recalled the day
14 Obama stood before the American people in those days
15 and months as BP's deep water well bellowed millions
16 of barrels of oil from that horrifying wound in the
17 Gulf of Mexico floor.

18 I remembered him remarking that yes, he
19 was concerned about the spill because while he shaved
20 one morning, his 11 year old daughter Malia said, did
21 you plug the hole yet daddy?

22 Children have a way of speaking to our

23

1 hearts and so I am mused, even if President Obama
2 didn't hear the songs and the chants of more than
3 1,000 people who were arrested over the course of two
4 weeks, even if the prayers of religious leaders and
5 Native American elders went unanswered, even if he
6 didn't read the editorial opposing the Keystone XL
7 pipeline in the New York Times, even if he ignored
8 the advice of his very own EPA, perhaps in this
9 instance, Sasha or Malia might see us outside the
10 White House gates and ask their dad, did you stop the
11 pipeline yet daddy?

12 As the police handcuffed my hands behind
13 me and led me off to a white school bus, I shouted,
14 for Sasha and Malia. I don't think Obama or his
15 daughters heard me. I thought as I watched my fellow
16 protesters be cuffed, searched and photographed
17 through the buses caged windows, perhaps if we keep
18 this up, they will.

19 And I am here today to keep this up. Mr.
20 President, do this for Malia and Sasha, not for Jeff
21 Berman, your former national delegate director and
22 current lobbyist for the Keystone XL pipeline.

23

1 Secretary Clinton do this for Chelsea and
2 her future children, your grandchildren, and not for
3 Paul Elliott, senior official for your presidential
4 bid and now lobbyist for Keystone XL pipeline. Did
5 you stop the pipeline today Daddy? I hope the
6 President hears us.

7 (Applause.)

8 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much.

9 MS. DROITSCH: Good afternoon. My name is
10 Danielle Droitsch, I am with the Natural Resources
11 Defense Council and I'm here to talk to you a little
12 bit about how Keystone XL pipeline is not in the
13 national interest because it is wholly inconsistent
14 with the Obama administration's goals to combat
15 climate change and reduce greenhouse gases.

16 Approving Keystone XL pipeline would lock
17 the U.S. into high carbon infrastructure lasting at
18 least 50 years. Tar sands are significantly more
19 greenhouse gas intensive than your conventional oil
20 and the U.S. State Department has acknowledged this
21 much in the Final Environmental Impact Statement
22 stating that the tar sands is more greenhouse gas

23

1 intensive than conventional oil and more greenhouse
2 gas intensive than the crudes that they would
3 displace in U.S., including heavy Mexican and
4 Venezuelan. .

5 The EPA has estimated the annual emissions
6 from the project to be 27 million metric tons,
7 equivalent greater than U.S. crude. These are
8 additive emissions above and beyond what would occur
9 without the pipeline.

10 It is equivalent to the emissions of 7
11 coal-fired power plants every year or putting 5
12 million more cars on the road. It is notable that if
13 the U.S. approves the pipeline they would be
14 effectively undoing the gains that would occur from
15 the recently finalized car and light truck greenhouse
16 gas regulations and it would also threaten gains made
17 with the long-term goals of the medium and heavy duty
18 truck rules.

19 But the State Department significantly
20 erred in its analysis in the Final Environmental
21 Impact Statement that Keystone would not result in
22 greater greenhouse gas emissions. And they are

1 relying -- you are relying on faulty analysis
2 concluding that tar sands did not flow through
3 Keystone it would somehow find its way to market by
4 other means.

5 This is a false argument. In the end,
6 these other means are speculative, uncertain, or much
7 longer-term options. In short, Alberta's tar sands
8 industry, this is their best hope for their expansion
9 plans in the tar sands and you have got to
10 acknowledge that.

11 But more to the point, the State
12 Department cannot simply avoid evaluating the
13 possible impact of this or any other project by
14 speculating about whether other projects can move
15 ahead. This violates the very core of the National
16 Environmental Policy Act.

17 In short, the State Department has an
18 obligation to listen to the Environmental Protection
19 Agency and acknowledge that Keystone will in fact add
20 to global greenhouse emissions.

21 But the concern doesn't stop there.
22 Canadian tar sands expansion plans are directly

23

1 linked to whether Keystone XL moves ahead, industry
2 has announced their plans to expand tar sands
3 production to as much as 7.6 million barrels a day.

4 The tar sands industry, the Canadian
5 government, the Alberta government have all been
6 vigorously defending Keystone XL because it is so
7 essential to the continued expansion of the upstream
8 Canadian tar sands industry.

9 Indeed the emissions created from
10 producing this much tar sands compared with the
11 equivalent amount of conventional oil would be an
12 additional 228 million metric tons.

13 Because Keystone is completely contrary to
14 the Obama administration's goal to combat climate
15 change, Keystone XL should not be found to be in the
16 national interest. Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much.

19 MR. STOCKMAN: I'm Lorne Stockman. I'm
20 Research Director for Oil Change International, a
21 research and advocacy group working on energy
22 environment here in Washington, DC.

23

1 We've heard a lot of talk about energy
2 security. People have said it's a choice between
3 Canadian oil or Saudi oil or Venezuelan oil. That's
4 a false choice. It's a false choice because Keystone
5 XL is essentially an export pipeline.

6 We've studied this issue, we've produced
7 the report a few weeks ago, I've submitted that into
8 the process. The refiners in the U.S. Gulf Coast are
9 at the forefront of the 60% increase in U.S.
10 petroleum products export since 2007.

11 Latin America and European markets need
12 diesel and the Gulf Coast refiners are the ones that
13 are providing it. In fact, with U.S. gasoline demand
14 set to decline over the long term, the refiners that
15 will receive Keystone XL crude have configured their
16 refineries to maximize diesel production from heavy
17 sour crude such as that from the tar sands that the
18 pipeline will deliver.

19 This means the Keystone XL pipeline is
20 serving growing, global demand rather than U.S.
21 domestic need. The oil delivered from Canada will
22 therefore be as well as, not instead of, other
23

1 sources of heavy oil such as that from Saudi Arabia
2 and Venezuela.

3 Even if that weren't the case, Canadian
4 oil has not and cannot insulate America from the
5 global oil market and we've seen that over the last
6 few years. Canada has been America's largest source
7 of imported oil since 2005. America now imports
8 twice as much oil from Canada as it does from Saudi
9 Arabia and 38% more than it does from the entire
10 Middle East region.

11 Yet this increasing reliance on Canadian
12 oil has not protected America from oil price spikes
13 or oil supply disruptions.

14 In 2008, as oil hit \$147 a barrel, United
15 States gasoline prices spiked. This year in March
16 and April as the Libyan civil war started, 1.6
17 million barrels a day came out of the market, U.S.
18 gasoline market spiked again along with the global
19 oil market.

20 The international agency has forecast that
21 over the next two decades even with Canadian oil and
22 tar sands oil being produced according to industry
23

1 guidelines, OPEC control over the global oil market
2 will increase from 40% today to over 50%. The only
3 way to make this country more secure, more energy
4 secure is to reduce oil demand.

5 (Applause.)

6 President Obama has set us on the road to
7 that through the CAFE standards that he has enacted.
8 It's a small step forward. We need to do a lot more.
9 If we reduce demand in line with the limits of our
10 climate system as the IEA has shown, we will send \$5
11 trillion less to OPEC over the next two decades.
12 That's energy security and I implore the State
13 Department to deny the permit for this pipeline.

14 (Applause.)

15 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much.

16 MR. STEELE: Is Dean Hubbard here?

17 (No response.)

18 MR. STEELE: Then I'll move along please
19 to #48. Rebecca Riedl. Excuse me, #47 Patrick
20 Spears, #48 Rebecca Riedl, #49 Mr. Jack Gerard, and
21 #50 Kim Rickard, please.

22 MR GERARD: I am Jack Gerard. Is it my
23

1 turn?

2 MR. STEELE: You may go ahead Mr. Gerard.

3 MR. GERARD: Thank you. I am Jack Gerard,
4 President and CEO of the American Petroleum
5 Institute, API. We say we represent 480 large and
6 small companies all across the United States that
7 develop various aspect of the oil and gas that our
8 country and our economy rely on and we support 9.2
9 million jobs and have given the opportunity to
10 generate and produce oil and natural gas in this
11 country, coupled with the approval of the Keystone XL
12 pipeline would create another new million jobs here
13 in the United States.

14 So we want to thank you for your thorough
15 review, working with you as federal and state and
16 local interest to make sure this process is
17 thoroughly vetted, opportunities are given to all,
18 much like today, to hear their views, but
19 fundamentally it comes down to one direct question.
20 Is the approval of this pipeline in the national
21 interest?

22 And our view is the answer is

23

1 overwhelmingly yes. This pipeline has two key
2 aspects I'd like to touch on just briefly.

3 First, it provides energy security for the
4 United States. As many know Canada is our largest
5 trading partner. We bring in more crude oil from
6 Canada than any other nation in the world today. By
7 expanding this opportunity we can become more secure
8 as a nation and as a continent here in North America
9 to have our resources locally, to fuel our economy
10 and to provide for what it is our American citizenry
11 need. So this makes us more energy secure as we look
12 to the long-term.

13 Recent analysis shows when we combine the
14 Canadian production, bringing us together with the
15 Keystone XL pipeline, coupled with development of
16 domestic oil and natural gas here in the United
17 States, we would be energy secure in North America in
18 15 years. That's energy security. That's clearly in
19 the national interest.

20 (Applause.)

21 The second key point I would like to make
22 is job creation. That is clearly in the national

23

1 interest at a time of over 9% unemployment. Your
2 approval of the Keystone XL pipeline will almost
3 immediately create 20,000 new American jobs here in
4 the United States.

5 There are over 2,400 U.S. companies that
6 are currently involved with the development of oil
7 sands from 49 different states. This is not at
8 regional impact. It's a national impact and if
9 approval of this pipeline were to come through, it
10 would help stimulate our economic recovery and will
11 put us back on our feet and many here today focused
12 on job creation and economic recovery will have the
13 opportunity to have some of the best paying jobs in
14 the United States.

15 (Applause.)

16 So once again in summary, this is in the
17 national interest. It's a job creator and it
18 provides more energy security for the United States.
19 We strongly endorse it and hope you will approve it
20 quickly. Thank you very much.

21 (Applause.)

22 MR. SPEARS: Hello. Greetings to the
23

1 State Department and all our relatives here. My name
2 is Pat Spears. I am a member of the Lower Brule
3 Sioux tribe and former planner and tribal chairman.
4 I now serve as the President of the Inner Tribal
5 Council on Utility Policy.

6 I represent the renewable energy policy
7 and development interests of some 15 tribes in the
8 Great Plains, that Northern Plains area. Primarily
9 the Dakotas, but we are surrounded by the States of
10 South Dakota, North Dakota, Wyoming, and Nebraska.

11 I also live along the Missouri River where
12 we get our drinking water along with many tribes
13 along the river, probably 10 more. There are other
14 tribes that are away from the river that are provided
15 drinking water through the rural water systems such
16 as Rosebud and the Ogallala Sioux tribes. The Great
17 Plains tribal Chairman's Association and the Oklahoma
18 tribes are opposed to the construction of the
19 Keystone XL pipeline.

20 (Applause.)

21 Cultural resource impacts are important to
22 the tribes but so is the environmental damage

23

1 potential to the economic and health impacts to other
2 people and tribal populations.

3 There is an Executive Order, I know, that
4 creates the presidential approval of this process
5 here, but there is also executive orders that have
6 equal status that demand consultation directly with
7 the tribal governments, on a government to government
8 basis, and the tribes want that to be upheld and
9 practiced.

10 The EIS finding of no significant impact
11 on environment is just incredible, but we are told
12 that the State Department is going to review that EIS
13 relative to risk assessment and liability for oil
14 spills.

15 We're hopeful that this will be an
16 unbiased and independent study and the tribes will
17 also have input in that study and be consulted by
18 whoever that contractor is.

19 There is further scientific analysis
20 necessary on this corrosive city content and pipeline
21 oil and materials, workmanship, etcetera, from people
22 that put those pipes in the ground. We've heard from
23

1 one of those inspectors here about some of those
2 things that were just buried and paid no attention
3 to. You should contact the number of those other
4 inspectors, I think.

5 The cost of climate change must also be
6 considered. The tar sands oil development will just
7 push us over the carbon cliff. So we think that the
8 economics of mining and the process of tar sands oil,
9 including the homelands of the Cree and Dene nations
10 in Canada must be considered, as well as the human
11 health cost on tribal and non-tribal lands.

12 So the tribes in the U.S. and Canada stand
13 together with other landowners in opposition to tar
14 sands oil development for the pipeline construction
15 as related in the Mother Earth Accord.

16 A few temporary jobs are not worth the
17 environmental risks and human health risks. The
18 development of tar sands oil is a huge step
19 backwards. We need the government to support all
20 forms of renewable energy, biofuels and electric
21 vehicles, powered by the wind and the sun.

22 MR. STEELE: Mr. Spear can you go ahead

1 and conclude your remarks please. Thank you.

2 MR. SPEARS: The development of renewable
3 energy and transmission grid is a step forward and
4 will create real clean jobs and restore the economy
5 for Tribal Nations and all people in the Great
6 Plains.

7 So we urge the State Department and the
8 Obama Administration to be remembered as one that
9 respects the earth and all people of the earth.
10 Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. STEELE: Thank you.

13 MS. RIEDL: Good morning, my name is
14 Rebecca Riedl. I am from Billings, Montana. If I
15 stumble a little bit, I've been up since 3:30
16 yesterday morning.

17 As I said, my name is Rebecca Riedl and
18 I'm a Field Agent for the Laborers in Montana, Local
19 1686.

20 (Applause.)

21 I began with the Laborers in 2008 just as
22 the housing market and the credit industry began to

23

1 crumble, but prior to working for the Laborers Union
2 I was employed for 22 years with the AFL-CIO working
3 with dislocated workers who lost their jobs due to
4 various plant closures, trade readjustments -- trade
5 deals and what not.

6 So I have a unique understanding of the
7 hopelessness that all of the unemployed Americans
8 today are facing and how they feel.

9 The difference between now and then as an
10 employment training specialist was there were lots of
11 resources available to assist them. Trade
12 Readjustment Act money, Workforce Investment Act
13 money, but today, with the looming deficits and the
14 federal government facing all sorts of cuts, there
15 isn't enough money to serve people that are
16 unemployed right now.

17 The actual unemployment rate in many
18 calculations is actually closer to 17% when you add
19 in all the people that have exhausted their
20 unemployment or are no longer looking for work or are
21 underemployed. The country has never seen
22 unemployment like this in, you know, since the Great

1 Depression.

2 And it was very difficult to work with
3 people all those years who lost their jobs, they had
4 a job for 20 years, they thought for sure that they
5 were going to retire from there, and life would be
6 good but they worked hard and would lose everything
7 because they lost their job.

8 So that's why I am here today, to implore
9 you to fast track the approval of the presidential
10 permit for the Keystone XL pipeline. This project
11 requires no tax dollars, would provide infrastructure
12 that is much needed to help develop the Bakken oil
13 fields and the construction of this project will get
14 thousands of people back to work very quickly.

15 This project is about as shovel-ready as
16 you can get. The four unions involved in building
17 pipelines have the ability to quickly train a large
18 workforce. Our members will be trained not only in
19 the pipeline construction but with heavy emphasis on
20 safety.

21 Our history shows that unions are the best
22 training programs and the best safety records in the
23

1 world. Never before has there been so much prime
2 opportunity to make a big impact for jobs quickly at
3 no cost to the taxpayer and with the unions providing
4 the training.

5 The country needs these jobs, this
6 pipeline, and therefore it needs the presidential
7 permit to be issued without delay. Thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 MS. RICKARD: Good afternoon Secretary of
10 State Clinton and the U.S. State Department hearings
11 panel. My name is Kim Ricard and I am the Business
12 Manager for Laborers International Union of North
13 America, Local 1686 for Montana.

14 (Applause.)

15 I'm here today representing 1,600 proud
16 construction and public sector members throughout the
17 State of Montana and I want to thank you for giving
18 me the opportunity to speak on their behalf today
19 regarding the TransCanada Keystone XL pipeline
20 project.

21 The construction of the TransCanada
22 Keystone XL pipeline will employ five to six hundred

23

1 laborers from Local 1686 in Montana. These jobs are
2 desperately needed as several thousand Montanans
3 employed in the construction industry have lost jobs
4 in the last four years.

5 This project will be a crucial path to
6 allow men and women of Montana to provide for their
7 families, pay their bills, and support local
8 businesses. This project will enable these workers
9 to be able to provide health insurance coverage for
10 themselves and their families in addition to a living
11 wage which will in turn support the small businesses
12 within our communities and create thousands of spin-
13 off jobs.

14 Montanans will once again be able to
15 provide for their families and communities. Building
16 this pipeline will pump over \$420 million into my
17 state's economy, including over \$285 million into the
18 wallets of working families throughout Montana.

19 This will be a fundamental component in
20 restoring what has been lost within our communities
21 of the great state of Montana. The people opposing
22 this pipeline don't understand the facts and they

23

1 don't understand what it's like to go months without
2 a job, not knowing how you are going to support your
3 family.

4 (Applause.)

5 Laborers Local 1686 agree that we need to
6 deal with climate change and expand the use of
7 renewable energy but the reality is, we still need
8 oil. We need it from nations we can trust and we
9 need jobs. Our members will even support a
10 reasonable and concept to build the pipeline, create
11 jobs here and reduce our dependence on oil from
12 hostile regimes instead of caving to extremists.

13 The on ramp construction of Baker, Montana
14 that is supported by our Governor Brian Sweitzer will
15 allow 65 barrels of crude oil per day from the region
16 to be transported efficiently at a reduced cost and
17 this will result in \$2 million annually to property
18 tax revenue to Fallon County. Yet another example in
19 long-term positive effect to Montana's working
20 families.

21 By building the pipeline Montanans and
22 Americans will benefit. If we don't build the

23

1 pipeline the oil will be shipped to China and no jobs
2 will be created here. Do we help ourselves in
3 Montana and the United States or do we help China?
4 We want to help ourselves.

5 The pipeline will give the U.S. access to
6 oil from one of our most trusted allies and reduce
7 our dependence on oil from countries that wish to do
8 us harm.

9 While the economic benefits are many, they
10 would mean little if we do not do this pipeline
11 safely. One of union's training priorities is to
12 maintain pipeline safety by ensuring it provides a
13 qualified workforce for operators and contractors to
14 comply with federal pipeline safety regulations.

15 MR. STEELE: Ms. Rickard I need to ask you
16 to finish up. Thank you.

17 MS. RICARD: Okay. Thank you very much
18 for letting me speak on behalf of the laborers.

19 (Applause.)

20 MR. STEELE: Again I remind folks that if
21 you have comments that you've already written out,
22 you are very, very welcome to either bring them up to
23

1 the table or to the table in the back of the room and
2 they will be considered fully, so thank you. #51 I
3 think Michael Klink has already spoken. If I am
4 wrong then you are up. Are you Michael Klink?

5 MR. MUFFETT: I am not Michael Klink but I
6 am #51.

7 MR. STEELE: That's interesting. Anyway
8 will you please go ahead and state your name for the
9 record please and your affiliation.

10 MR. MUFFETT: My name is Carroll Muffett
11 and I'm President of the Center for International
12 Environmental Law. CL is a not for profit
13 organization that uses the power of law to protect
14 the environment, promote human rights, and ensure a
15 just and sustainable society. I'm speaking on behalf
16 of CL, Earth Justice and Green Peace.

17 Under Executive Order 13337, the Secretary
18 of State may not grant a presidential permit for the
19 Keystone XL pipeline absent an express finding that
20 the pipeline will serve the national interest. It
21 will not.

22 Approval of the Keystone XL project would
23

1 contribute to substantial increases in greenhouse gas
2 emissions by both the United States and Canada with
3 significant global climate impacts. As a result, it
4 would violate our country's obligation to lead the
5 international community in taking urgent action to
6 mitigate climate change.

7 It would undermine key national policy
8 priorities in transitioning to a clean energy
9 economy. It would facilitate Canada's own violations
10 of its international climate obligations and in doing
11 so, approval of Keystone XL would exacerbate the real
12 and very serious risks of climate change to national
13 security and international peace.

14 Risks that the Secretary herself has
15 recognized as a clear and present danger to the
16 United States, the international community, and the
17 world.

18 For these reasons, the State Department
19 must find that the Keystone XL project does not serve
20 the national interest.

21 The U.S. has made a clear commitment to
22 the American public and the international community

23

1 that it will lead in the global transition to a low
2 carbon economy. However, if approved, Keystone XL
3 will facilitate the extraction, production, and use
4 of one of the world's most carbon-intensive fuels and
5 undermine our commitment and our ability to show
6 leadership on climate change.

7 As a party to the UN Framework convention
8 on Climate Change, the U.S. is obligated under
9 Article IV.2(A) of the convention to adopt national
10 policies and take measures that will demonstrate that
11 it is taking the lead in addressing climate change
12 consistent with the objective of the Convention.

13 As such, the U.S. must show progress
14 towards achieving the Convention's ultimate objective
15 of stabilizing greenhouse gas concentrations at a
16 level that would prevent dangerous human interference
17 with the climate.

18 For more than two decades, the U.S. has
19 failed to deliver on that commitment in any
20 meaningful way. Approval of Keystone XL would
21 continue and compound that history of failure.

22 To date, this administration's professed

1 commitments to meet international obligations and
2 lead on climate change in various forums -- is that
3 five minutes?

4 MS. COLEMAN: Three.

5 MR. MUFFETT: Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much.

8 MR. STEELE: Thank you. I'd like to call
9 please Mr. Brent Booker, I think it is.

10 MR. BOOEKR: yes.

11 MR. STEELE: Okay and after Mr. Booker we
12 have Laura Hughes and Rachel Eggabo, who I thought
13 spoke earlier.

14 MS. COLEMAN: Yes.

15 MR. STEELE: And Jack Reid please. Please
16 go ahead Mr. Booker.

17 MR. BOOKER: Brent Booker. I stand
18 proudly here representing the 500,000 men and women
19 of the Laborers International Union of North America
20 to speak on behalf --

21 (Applause.)

22 The State Department to issue the

23

1 presidential permit because it is vital for our
2 country's national security. It's vital for two
3 reasons, first of which it will reduce our dependence
4 on foreign oil but more importantly I'm here to talk
5 about jobs. I'm talking about jobs for Americans and
6 for Canadians that this project, the TransCanada is
7 going to provide for Americans.

8 TransCanada partnered with the unions
9 several years ago. They came to us because they knew
10 that we were the best trained and had the best safety
11 record of anybody building pipelines in the United
12 States.

13 Amongst the four crafts, we have hundreds
14 of training sites across the United States of America
15 and Canada. We have dozens along the route of the
16 pipeline. Hundreds of millions of dollars are spent
17 on an annual basis between the Laborers, the United
18 Association, the International Union of Operating
19 Engineers, and the International Brotherhood of
20 Teamsters.

21 This money is used to train the workers
22 who are going to build this pipeline who are going to

1 build this pipeline safely and we are going to build
2 this pipeline effectively. We commend the EPA, the
3 State Department and more importantly TransCanada for
4 partner with the unions and they're using their own
5 vigorous safety standards that far exceed the
6 regulations that have been put forth through the EPA
7 and the State Department.

8 We feel that these hearings have been
9 fair, we feel that these hearings have had an honest
10 dialogue that allows both parties to put their issues
11 forward but the bottom line is, Americans need jobs
12 and TransCanada --

13 (Applause.)

14 TransCanada is going to provide those jobs
15 through the length and the construction of this
16 project. In the last four years over 2 million
17 Americans have lost their jobs in the construction
18 industry.

19 Construction unemployment is nearly twice
20 as much as the national average which hovers around
21 9% currently. This project will put thousands of
22 workers back to work and they'll do it quickly.

23

1 It's a shovel-ready project, it's going to
2 allow our members who are currently unemployed, some
3 of which might be a couple of weeks, more than likely
4 months, and some possibly years, who have been trying
5 to figure out how they're going to put the next meal
6 on the table, how they're going to pay their
7 mortgage, how they're going to pay their car payment.

8 (Applause.)

9 These workers need this job. These
10 workers need the Keystone XL to unlock these good
11 jobs. TransCanada has committed to paying a fair
12 living wage, to pay health benefits to the workers
13 who are going to work on this pipeline and pay
14 pensions so that when our workers retire they can
15 retire with a fair living wage.

16 We implore you, we ask you, we need this
17 job. Thank you for your consideration.

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. STEELE: Next I have Laura Hughes.

20 MS. HUGHES: Hello again Mr. Steele. I
21 saw you at Glendai. My name is Laura Hughes and I am
22 the pipeline Representative for the Laborers

23

1 International Union of North America.

2 (Applause.)

3 I spent many years working on these
4 projects, years that I might add provided me with a
5 steady employment, with a living wage and decent
6 benefits. Now I have the honor to represent these
7 workers and today I speak on their behalf.

8 The workers that build these pipeline have
9 steady careers in this industry and we build these
10 lines according to the lead standards of
11 construction. We are proud of the work we accomplish
12 and we are not afraid to speak up if we see something
13 that is improper. We produce a quality product
14 because we live and work in the areas that these
15 pipelines are built in.

16 Local residents will be employed on these
17 projects along with experienced, industry proven
18 American laborers that follow the industry. We
19 provide the qualified, trained, and experienced labor
20 that our international contractors need to have a
21 quality result.

22 Currently, the construction industry

23

1 suffers anywhere from 13 to 18 percent, depending on
2 who you ask. Unemployment, more so in the rural
3 areas where traditionally we lay these lines. These
4 small communities that we enter and perform the work
5 in gets a huge shot in the arm from us. We can turn
6 a paycheck over in 24 hours, at the local grocery
7 stores, gas stations, hotels, restaurants, and any
8 other item one might need while living away from
9 home.

10 The resulting economic impact invigorates
11 the local community. Our contractors also believe in
12 buying locally. When they need work supplies and
13 many other things they will buy from the community,
14 shovels, fencing materials, chain saws, water jugs,
15 fuel, groceries, and the list goes on and on and on.

16 This is about jobs. Jobs that put
17 American middle class back to work. The middle that
18 is disappearing and shrinking that supports the tax
19 base for all of the structured communities that need
20 to survive.

21 This job is shovel-ready and we need these
22 jobs. Where better to come from than our neighbor to
23

1 the north and as an added bonus, Montana and North
2 Dakota will have an on ramp to transport the Bakken
3 shale field oil to market, making this an additional
4 shot in the arm for those statewide governments.

5 We still are a fossil-fuel society but we
6 can be environmentally correct society that enables
7 this line to go through the complete process of two
8 Environmental Impact Statements with the pipe being
9 laid in the most environmentally stringent country in
10 the world, by the best international, best practices
11 contractors in the world, and the most qualified and
12 trained employees available.

13 We understand the need for renewable
14 energy, we are not there now. We need to feed our
15 families now. It's about jobs.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. STEELE: Thank you very much. We
18 would appreciate it if you would allow the speakers
19 to go ahead and speak without interruption just
20 because it takes additional time away from us. Mr.
21 Ried.

22 MR. WHATLEY: My name is Michael Whatley,

23

1 #54, and I am the Executive Vice President of
2 Consumers Energy Alliance. CEA's made up of more
3 than 300,000 individuals and over 165 organizations
4 that represent every sector of the U.S. economy
5 including truckers, farmers, highway users, shippers,
6 manufacturers, iron steel producers, chemical
7 manufacturers and energy producers.

8 CEA strongly support the Keystone XL
9 pipeline because of the economic benefits that it
10 will provide. Not only to the six states in the XL
11 corridor, but for the national as a whole. The
12 pipeline will create more than 120,000 jobs across
13 the United States.

14 Even more, this project will create
15 hundreds of millions of dollars in government
16 receipts, help balance the budget, and create \$20
17 billion in economic growth nationwide. That's a lot
18 of money that will go to improving our schools, our
19 roads, and our hospitals.

20 The Keystone XL pipeline project will also
21 strengthen our national energy security. The 700,000
22 barrels of oil per day that this pipeline will bring

1 to Gulf Coast refineries will be coming from places
2 like Oklahoma, Montana, the Dakotas, and Canada, our
3 closest neighbor, ally, and largest trading partner.

4 This oil is not subject to violent
5 revolutions like we've seen this year in Egypt and
6 Libya. It cannot be used as a political tool like
7 Russian oil can. It is highly discounted from the
8 prices we pay for the Persian Gulf and it will help
9 drive down fuel prices for both our military and
10 American drivers.

11 There have been several allegations made
12 by pipeline opponents that oil from the Keystone XL
13 pipeline will be exported to Asia or will drive up
14 gas and diesel prices. These claims could not be
15 more unrealistic.

16 As of this morning, the United States has
17 imported 2.65 billion barrels of oil this year and
18 according to EIA statistics at a total cost of \$281
19 billion. To suggest that we will become an exporter
20 because of this capacity or that adding 700,000
21 barrels of oil to U.S. markets will increase prices
22 is completely unrealistic.

23

1 Further, there is already excess pipeline
2 capacity to get crude oil from the Alberta oil sands
3 formations to the Pacific Coast which is about a 500
4 mile journey. Suggesting that producers would send
5 it 1,700 miles down to Port Arthur, load it on a
6 tanker and then send it through the Panama Canal to
7 get it to Pacific markets is ridiculous.

8 Not only will the pipeline bring great
9 economic and energy security benefits to the United
10 States, it will do so without harming our water or
11 our environment. The State Department extensive
12 environmental review of this pipeline concluded that
13 there was no scenario in which the Northern High
14 Plains Aquifer would be adversely affected.

15 The State Department also studied over a
16 dozen other routes for the pipeline and found that
17 the current route is the safest alternative and that
18 other alternative routes would "disturb more land and
19 cross more bodies of water than the proposed route."

20 Over 2,500 thousand miles of pipeline has
21 already crossed the Ogallala Aquifer and Keystone XL
22 will be built with state-of-the-art technology and
23

1 pipeline are the safest most efficient way to
2 transport oil.

3 To conclude, it is clear that it is in the
4 national interest to allow construction of this
5 important pipeline because it will be environmentally
6 safe, because it will create thousands of high paying
7 jobs, because it will significantly boost the U.S.
8 economy and enhance energy security, CEA request that
9 on behalf of energy consumers nationwide the State
10 Department and the Administration to grant the
11 presidential permit and allow construction of the
12 Keystone XL pipeline.

13 (Applause.)

14 MR. STEELE: Thank you. Mr. Reid.

15 MR. SEWELL: Good afternoon. I appreciate
16 Jack yielding his # to me. My name is Rodney Sewell
17 and I am a member of Local Union 657 right here in
18 Washington, DC.

19 (Applause.)

20 And I am also the President here of Labor
21 Union Local 657. I'm also a lay leader within my
22 church where a lot of our union members, construction
23

1 men and women, is out of work and the community which
2 I live in, there is numerous denomination of churches
3 and they look to us to provide jobs for those
4 construction members that's within their church.

5 So we are reaching out to the community
6 within our community to put people back to work and
7 we need construction jobs like this Keystone pipeline
8 so to put our members within our churches to work.

9 Building the Keystone pipeline create
10 thousands of good jobs here in America that will
11 allow men and women to provide for their families,
12 pay their bills and support local businesses.

13 This pipeline will create prevailing
14 wages, health benefits, and the key thing to a lot of
15 our construction workers is health benefit insurance
16 for our members. To go without insurance, we know
17 what it's like and this construction pipeline will
18 give us those health benefits, those prevailing
19 wages, and pension for our members.

20 These jobs are desperately needed.
21 America has lost over two million construction jobs
22 in the last four years and more than one in seven

1 construction workers can't find work. These are more
2 than a job. These are careers for our union brothers
3 and sisters. Thousands of jobs will be created if
4 this pipeline goes through.

5 Building this pipeline would pump billions
6 into our economy, much of that going directly into
7 the wallets of working families, men and women. We
8 agree that this pipeline need to be done safely,
9 that's why we have those skilled men and women within
10 those trades, the pipefitters, the teamsters, the
11 laborers that can do this pipeline safely.

12 The people proposing this pipeline may not
13 understand what it's like to go months without having
14 job, feeding you family, putting food on the table,
15 we know what it's like. I am a third generation
16 pipeline worker, lived around the pipeline all my
17 life, use that pipeline to put my kids through
18 school, graduate, so I know what it is to be out of
19 work.

20 So I'm saying to you, please let this
21 pipeline go through so I can continue to provide for
22 my family, put food on my table.

23

1 (Applause.)

2 Also, the pipeline have ran through my
3 family, right through their backyard within 100
4 yards, so we need this pipeline, we need this work,
5 and I say we are definitely in support of this
6 pipeline.

7 (Applause.)

8 MR. STEELE: Thank you. I would like to
9 call please Michael Barrett, Michael Reeves, Phil
10 Stevenson, and Greg Davis please.

11 MR. BARRETT: I believe its afternoon,
12 good afternoon. My name is Michael Barrett. Thank
13 you for the opportunity to speak today. I stand
14 before you as a representative of the Laborers
15 International Union.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. STEELE: Please, go ahead.

18 MR. BARRETT: A union that's working for
19 working families throughout this country and Canada
20 as well, but I'm also a lifelong environmentalist and
21 I take that seriously.

22 I have attended countless rallies,

23

1 demonstrations, meetings over the years over
2 environmental causes, including an early attempt to
3 shut down Wall Street over its support for the
4 nuclear power industry.

5 I understand that some environmental
6 groups are opposed to the Keystone XL pipeline; I
7 respect their passion and their fundamental concerns.

8 My union works with many of these groups
9 to find common ground in creating sustainable good
10 paying jobs. But their opposition to this pipeline
11 is a mistake. This is not a question of whether
12 Canada will extract its oil. This is a question
13 about whether we're going to construct a pipeline to
14 take that oil into the United States.

15 Opposing the pipeline will not reduce
16 carbon fuel emissions, since this oil will simply be
17 burned less cleanly in China, if we don't build this
18 pipeline. Opposing this pipeline will not reduce oil
19 spills since pipelines are much safer way to
20 transport oil than the tankers which would carry this
21 oil to China.

22 Environmental opposition to this pipeline
23

1 is a knee-jerk reaction rather than a sound strategic
2 position. You cannot reduce global warming by
3 opposing this pipeline.

4 On the other hand, this pipeline will
5 generate jobs for thousands of unemployed
6 construction workers that desperate need them, jobs
7 that will support their families and their
8 communities.

9 Make no mistake, unemployment kills.
10 Unemployment kills workers, it kills families, and it
11 kills communities, and it's killing them right now.
12 This pipeline can and should be built safely and
13 well. North America Union train construction workers
14 are the best pipe layers in the world. We can and
15 will build a safe pipeline.

16 We need to be rational about the trade-
17 offs of a project like Keystone XL. We need to think
18 about the alternatives if this project isn't built.
19 The reasonable thing is to build the pipeline, create
20 jobs here and reduce our dependence on oil from other
21 parts of the world. That's why the Final
22 Environmental Impact Statement concludes that the
23

1 alternatives to the pipeline are not reasonable or
2 environmentally preferable.

3 Please find that the Keystone XL project
4 is in the national interest and approve the
5 presidential permit as soon as possible. Thank you
6 for today's hearing and the opportunity to comment.

7 (Applause.)

8 MR. STEELE: Michael Reeves.

9 MR. REEVES: Yes, Michael Reeves. I'm
10 Michael Reeves, I'm President of the Ports to Plains
11 Alliance, which is a grassroots organization of
12 cities, counties, chamber of commerce, economic
13 development organizations along a 2,300 mile corridor
14 that runs from Mexico to Canada.

15 We have members in 10 U.S. states, Alberta
16 and Saskatchewan, Canada, as well as Quella, Mexico
17 and the Keystone XL pipeline is proposed to run
18 through our region and it will have a direct impact
19 on many of our members both positive and negative
20 impacts that may occur.

21 And I encourage you to approve the
22 presidential permit for the pipeline and I submitted
23

1 a letter with the signatories of more than -- about
2 50 mayors and county officials joining on.

3 Keystone XL provides significant economic
4 benefits for our region and it is particularly
5 important for America's Heartland that has continued
6 to see population declines. The pipeline is
7 projected to create more than 20,000 manufacturing
8 and construction jobs on the pipeline itself and
9 contribute more than \$5.2 billion in tax revenue to
10 the corridor states.

11 At a time when our state and local
12 governments are facing budget cuts and therefore job
13 cuts, these revenue and employment benefits are
14 crucial. Most numbers don't include the number of
15 jobs, American jobs, that are supported by production
16 of Alberta oil, whether it's steel, drilling, oil
17 field equipment manufacturers, trucking companies,
18 and many other American industries that provide jobs
19 for lots of Americans.

20 I had a trucking company called me a
21 couple weeks ago looking for potential back haul
22 because they're importing so much steel from Texas up
23

1 to Alberta, that they are looking for more trip that
2 way.

3 Keystone XL is a key component for
4 American effort to end our dependence on Middle East
5 and Venezuelan oil by increasing our access to
6 supplies from our trusted neighbor and ally, Canada,
7 as well as domestic supplies from the Bakkan
8 formation in Montana and North Dakota.

9 Relying upon regimes that are in many
10 cases unstable and unfriendly to the United States is
11 simply bad energy, economic and national security
12 policy. American troops are not called on to defend
13 the oil fields of Alberta from the people in
14 Saskatchewan.

15 We know that the money we spend in Canada
16 will not get to fund insurgents or terrorists and
17 when political uprisings and revolutions ousted
18 governments in the Middle East earlier this year, we
19 saw harmful oil price spikes that threaten our
20 fragile economic recovery.

21 Today Alberta is sweating in new Premier
22 and we see no impact on the oil markets at all. The
23

1 pipeline will displace about half of the oil that the
2 United States currently imports from the Middle East
3 and by decreasing the U.S. reliance on Middle Eastern
4 imports, we have a greater capacity to pursue a
5 foreign policy that is not subjected to the whims of
6 oil producers in the Persian Gulf.

7 As the world's largest trading partners
8 Canada and the United States have developed the
9 infrastructure and policies necessary to ensure
10 security and efficiency of exchange of goods and
11 services. The relationship has led to strong
12 political cooperation between these two western
13 democracies and any scenario in which Canada would
14 prohibit oil exports to the United States is highly
15 unlikely.

16 Other nations have turned off the spigot
17 to the U.S. and other countries in hostile moves that
18 have caused significant damage to the U.S. economy
19 and left our armed forces without reliable sources of
20 fuel.

21 In the words of Energy Secretary Steven
22 Chu, having Canada as a supplier of our oil is much

1 more comforting than to have other countries supply
2 our oil. Thank you very much.

3 (Applause.)

4 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you.

5 MR. STEELE: Phil Stevenson.

6 MR. STEVENSON: I'm Director of Pipeline
7 for the United Association. You've heard a lot of
8 testimony today regarding energy, energy
9 independence, our allies, our trading partners -- how
10 horrible is that? An export from the United States
11 with American jobs. That's just horrible. I'm going
12 to tell you the most important concern to us is
13 economic impact.

14 At a time with high national unemployment,
15 some areas of the industry is nearly 40%. I'm going
16 to tell you, there is 13,000 jobs for construction.
17 We can argue about water, we can argue about the air,
18 we can argue about the dirt --

19 MR. STEELE: Can you please not react --

20 MR. STEVENSON: I wish Dr. Skinner was
21 still in here, I don't know if she is or not. The
22 Cornell study that was put together, I don't know

23

1 where they came up with their numbers. You can tell
2 me a lot of things but you're not going to tell me
3 about manning a pipeline job.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. STEVENSON: There is 22 spreads, 22
6 spreads on this pipeline from the Canadian border to
7 Port Arthur, Texas. Each individual spread will
8 average between 750 to 1,000 employees. I assure you
9 that is a true number. There is 30 pump stations
10 between the Canadian border and Port Arthur, Texas.
11 Each one of those pump stations will employ 80 to 120
12 construction employees. These are real numbers.

13 SPEAKER: He's lying through his teeth.

14 MR. STEVENSON: Get a haircut.

15 (Laughter and Applause.)

16 MR. STEELE: I would appreciate it --
17 excuse me Mr. Stevenson you'll get some more time
18 added onto this, but I would appreciate it if those
19 who are in the room would allow the speakers, every
20 single speaker, whether you agree with his positions
21 or not, to finish his remarks, treat that individual
22 with respect and in return you will get the same

23

1 treatment. Thank you. Mr. Stevenson please go
2 ahead.

3 (Applause.)

4 MR. STEVENSON: Thank you. To my good
5 friends from Nebraska, Boomer Slooner, if you are
6 running those giant John Deere and Massey Ferguson
7 tractors on water that you hand pumped out of the
8 Ogallala Aquifer, and you're burning buffalo chips to
9 run those tractors, God love you, but I think you're
10 probably using thousands of gallons of diesel a year.

11 To the General that spoke earlier about
12 transitioning to alternate forms, unless he knows
13 something I don't know, as our good friend Bobby
14 Petty puts so eloquently he's never seen a windmill
15 on a fire plane or a solar panel on a submarine.

16 Please get this permit passed. Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 MR. STEELE: Greg Davis.

19 MR. PERRYMAN: Are you to 57 yet?

20 MR. STEELE: Excuse me.

21 MR. PERRYMAN. I'm #57 Ray Perryman.

22 MR. STEELE: What's your name?

23

1 MR. PERRYMAN: Ray Perryman.

2 MR. STEELE: I don't have you on this
3 list.

4 MR. PERRYMAN: I'm #57.

5 MR. STEELE: Spell your name please.

6 MR. PERRYMAN: Ray Perryman and I am an
7 economist from Texas, former college professor and
8 I'm the source of a lot of the numbers people have
9 both praised and maligned here today. I'm the source
10 of the 118,000 total jobs for the construction
11 process, the 250,000 jobs once it's built, the 9.5
12 billion gross product and other things.

13 And I just want to briefly talk about a
14 few issues. Those numbers, I have files from written
15 testimony that have all the numbers in them. I don't
16 want to repeat those numbers, I would just briefly in
17 response to what Dr. Skinner said earlier, we did not
18 -- we were very careful. We do our analysis -- we've
19 been doing this for 30 years.

20 We looked at every county, the number of
21 workers in every county, where they would live, and
22 that sort of thing in doing this analysis. We did

23

1 not count the money that would be spent in Canada.

2 We did not count the money that would be spent on
3 pipes overseas.

4 The bottom line is, there are billions of
5 dollars that are going to be spent build this
6 pipeline in the United States, it should be built
7 safely, it should be built at the high standard.

8 You've got a lot of folks here in this
9 room who know how to do that and it will generate
10 substantial economic impact. It's impossible to
11 spend billions of dollars on construction and not
12 generate significant economic impact, you can't do
13 it.

14 Beyond that, once the pipeline is built,
15 I've heard several people say it will raise the price
16 of oil and we analyze in the very careful highest
17 economic standards using the best models available in
18 the world, but the bottom line is, you can look at
19 the first ten pages of any high school economics book
20 and they will tell you when you got more supply the
21 price goes down not up.

22 And in this case, we're talking about

23

1 supply coming from a politically stable neighbor as
2 opposed to an alternative of it coming from an
3 unstable region of the world.

4 People factor risk into price, they factor
5 quantity into price, and all of those things say the
6 price is going to go down. When that happens, all of
7 the companies have to buy petroleum have additional
8 money they don't have to spend on petroleum, they can
9 spend on other things. They can invest, they can
10 innovate, they can create jobs, they can do all the
11 things that companies do.

12 I am a very, very big fan of the
13 environment; among the studies my company has done
14 over the last 30 years they include the Apollo
15 project which is a massive free energy investment,
16 over billions of dollars investment in renewable
17 energy.

18 I think we need all of that but its part
19 of an overall portfolio of energy that we need and
20 part of that energy is petroleum. We need it now, we
21 have infrastructure issues, our infrastructure is out
22 of date. This project both make sense from a

23

1 construction standpoint, exactly what the stimulus
2 package wants to do, except it doesn't require
3 taxpayer money and it also creates jobs on a
4 sustained basis because it's going to give us a more
5 stable energy future.

6 So for all those reasons I would ask you
7 to support the Keystone XL pipeline both from an
8 environmental perspective and most importantly an
9 economic perspective.

10 It really comes down to just plain common
11 sense. Spending billions of dollars and lowering the
12 price of oil is going to have a positive effect on
13 the economy. I thank you very much for your time and
14 attention.

15 MR. STEELE: Is Greg Davis here? Okay,
16 please.

17 MR. DAVIS: My name is Greg Davis. I'm
18 representing the Laborers International Union of
19 North America.

20 (Applause.)

21 After more than three years in the
22 permitting process, it's critical that the State

23

1 Department move forward and approve the Keystone XL
2 project.

3 The construction industry needs this
4 important investment, right now for our economy and
5 the security of our country. The construction sector
6 has had a depression-era unemployment levels. Where
7 one million construction workers were unemployed
8 during the peak week of the construction season this
9 year. People are losing their houses, their cars,
10 and their health insurance.

11 Times are tough right now for the U.S.
12 construction work. These are not short-term
13 insignificant job for construction workers as some as
14 referred to them. We survive in this industry.
15 We're stringing together jobs of much shorter
16 duration on average to make our living and raise our
17 families. In this industry, most workers do not make
18 2,000 hours a year. The construction worker averages
19 about 1200 hours a year for his whole year.

20 We don't get to go to an office every day,
21 we do not get to work in a controlled climate and air
22 condition. We are subjected to wind and rain and all
23

1 types of adverse weather conditions. We do not get
2 paid when this happens. We only get paid for the
3 hours we actually work and many of us haven't seen
4 work in months and some people, years.

5 These jobs are needed and the jobs are
6 needed now.

7 (Applause.)

8 It's time to move this project forward.
9 We need to see the economic benefits of this project
10 for our communities and the construction industry.

11 The project will employ thousands of
12 construction workers. It will provide wages for them
13 to rebuild their lives, make their car payments, buy
14 groceries, pay mortgages, taxes, and create revenue
15 to revive our communities.

16 As a veteran of the U.S. armed forces and
17 a proud parent of a child serving in the National
18 Guard, the enhancement of our national security is of
19 great concern to me and my family.

20 The United States import millions of
21 gallons of crude per day. America is a consumer of
22 energy and we are going to need all the energy

23

1 resources we have. Building the Keystone XL pipeline
2 should not show down resource in the battery
3 technology or slow the expansion of wind farm or
4 solar energy. Our reliance on foreign sources of oil
5 makes our economic and energy security vulnerable.

6 There are governments who control oil
7 supply whose philosophies are at odds with the
8 interest of the United States. Energy independence
9 will reduce their potential to threaten the U.S.
10 economy and will provide our military with the better
11 ability to protect our country.

12 Until a day when our soldiers can go into
13 battle, and tanks and humvees that run on just
14 batteries and solar power, our country will need oil.
15 For these reasons, the Keystone XL project and
16 approval of the presidential permit are in the best
17 economic and national interest of the United States.
18 Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 MR. STEELE: Next I have please, Liz
21 Barratt-Brown, Tim Guttera, Brenda Kenny, and Drew
22 Veysey, please.

23

1 MS. BARRATT-BROWN: Thank you. My name is
2 Liz Barratt-Brown. I am a Senior Attorney with the
3 NRDC. And I'd like to cede a few seconds of my time
4 to Kathryn Solorzano-Lowell.

5 MS. SOLORZANO-LOWELL: Hello, my name is
6 Kathryn Solorzano-Lowell. I am coming down here in
7 support of tar sands actions and Boston tar sands
8 action patriots and I am currently seeking
9 employment.

10 Now I just spent about 10 hours in line on
11 that marble floor with social justice and
12 environmental justice advocates that support union
13 rights and with union advocates that support green
14 energy, and all of them were in support -- all the
15 ones that I spoke to -- of the Occupy Wall Street
16 movement and the Occupy movements across this
17 country.

18 (Applause.)

19 The only reason that we are all here is
20 because other infrastructure projects have been
21 stifled and these people need jobs, but the pipeline
22 is not the answer because they need more jobs than
23

1 that.

2 (Applause.)

3 We need to support each other and I'm just
4 going to throw out and like many have said, I don't
5 know the exact numbers on this, but if the top 1%
6 were paying what our union friends are paying for
7 taxes, I think that would be a pretty good start.
8 Thank you very much.

9 (Applause.)

10 MS. BARRATT-BROWN: When President Obama
11 was elected, he promised in his own words to end the
12 tyranny of oil. In a speech last March the President
13 said, "The United States of America cannot afford to
14 bet our long-term prosperity, our long-term security
15 on a resource that will eventually run out, and even
16 before it runs out, will get more and more expensive
17 to extract from the ground.

18 We can't afford it when the cost to our
19 economy, our country and our planet are so high. The
20 only way for America's energy supply to be truly
21 secure, is by permanently reducing our dependence on
22 oil." And he finished, "we've got to do it quickly."

23

1 Approval of the Keystone XL pipeline would
2 take the country in the opposite direction by
3 increasing our dependency on oil. That's why you've
4 heard from team leaders like General Anderson today
5 that are speaking out against this pipeline. They
6 understand it will lock us into 50 years or more of
7 the dirtiest oil on the planet.

8 The fact is, U.S. oil consumption is in
9 decline. That trend is expected to continue as our
10 auto and truck efficiency increases. The U.S.
11 already has two million barrels a day of tar sands
12 pipeline capacity but imports only a million. This
13 pipeline is not needed. So why the big push? What
14 the oil industry really wants is to get tar sands
15 bitumen out of the Midwest where there is a glut and
16 to the Gulf Coast where there is more refining capacity
17 for dirty crude and it can command higher prices.

18 According to TransCanada own testimony
19 there is \$4 billion more a year in profits to the tar
20 sands industry.

21 MR. STEELE: Can you go ahead and finish
22 please.

23

1 MS. BARRATT-BROWN: If it can move the oil
2 to the Gulf, coming mainly out of the pocket of
3 Midwesterners. There are much better jobs and better
4 future and clean energy. On behalf of our millions
5 of activists and members, we ask you do not find this
6 pipeline in our national interest. I am submitting
7 for the record letters, resolutions, statements and
8 testimony asking that this pipeline be denied. The
9 risks are too great. Thank you very much.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR. STEELE: Thank you. Please could we
12 allow the next speakers. I have next on my list, I
13 have Tim Guttera.

14 (No response.)

15 MR. STEELE: Tim is not here. How about
16 Brenda Kenny.

17 MS. KENNY: Thank you ladies and
18 gentlemen. My name is Dr. Brenda Kenny and I am
19 President of the Canadian Energy Pipeline
20 Association.

21 This is an Association that represents the
22 major pipeline transmission companies in Canada.

23

1 You're faced with a very important decision for your
2 great nation and I hope that I can provide a few
3 points of clarification and information to assist.

4 Collectively, the companies I represent
5 operate more than 60,000 miles of pipeline throughout
6 North America. These pipelines are critical energy
7 highways that connect oil and gas producing regions
8 to consumers.

9 The Keystone XL project is just one link
10 in an ongoing improvement of infrastructure in North
11 America that began decades ago.

12 In keeping with our industry's steadfast
13 commitment to safety and continuous improvement, this
14 project will be using the best available technology
15 and adopt the most stringent safety procedures to
16 ensure safe and reliable transport to the refineries
17 in Texas that can assist your markets in the South of
18 the U.S.

19 There has been some allegations that this
20 pipeline has had a number of leaks. The pipeline
21 itself has had no leaks. There have been 14 minor
22 leaks within station property that have not affected
23

1 any private landowners and all of that has been
2 cleaned up, and I would wager that the total volume
3 has likely been less than any of us in this room
4 might have spilled through one year of filling our
5 own vehicles.

6 At the time of significant political
7 upheavals internationally and a very difficult
8 economic recovery here in North America, this
9 pipeline project offers a number of key benefits that
10 I would like to point out.

11 First of all is the long-term access to
12 reliable source of energy that is being developed in
13 an environmentally responsible manner.

14 The second is short-term economic benefits
15 through construction jobs and the purchase of local
16 goods where American markets and businesses can
17 capitalize on this great opportunity.

18 The third is long-term tax revenue for
19 states and dozens of counties whether they choose to
20 invest in schools, healthcare, road refurbishments or
21 what have you.

22 At this time of incredible economic
23

1 volatility where markets have difficulty making long-
2 term investment decisions, this project offers a
3 welcome relief.

4 Projects such as Keystone XL are long-term
5 assets in the public interest because they meet the
6 energy needs of your nation and the capacity of this
7 particular project only represents about 4.5% of your
8 overall U.S. demand.

9 It's an important incremental part for
10 reliable energy, creating choice, but in this
11 context, this in no way is a lynch-pin to continued
12 fossil fuel reliance. Indeed this is a transition to
13 better supply connections and security as the U.S.
14 makes its own choices in the future about the
15 evolution of its energy use. Thank you very much.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. STEELE: Drew Vesey please.

18 MR. VEYSEY: So my name is Drew Veysey and
19 as a proud Canadian American I will say that the
20 Keystone XL pipeline is not in the national interest
21 of the United States of America. We need a 21st
22 century economy in this country that's not shackled
23

1 to dirty fossil fuel. There will be thousands of
2 additional miles of steel chaining our country to an
3 antiquated fossil fuel economy if we build the
4 Keystone XL pipeline.

5 We have to choose. We have to choose
6 between a clean energy economy or dirty economy and
7 we've had all of the above energy policy for the past
8 30 years and that is an obvious failure.

9 As part of the 99% of Americans, the
10 common, decent people of this country, we must resist
11 further expansion of the fossil fuel economy. The
12 richest 1% can cope with climate change by buying
13 themselves safety. It is the 99% who suffer from the
14 deadly and damaging effects of climate change.

15 (Applause.)

16 That is why I urge you to deny the
17 Keystone XL pipeline permit. If this government
18 still works in the best interest of the American
19 people, you will deny this pipeline. Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you. We are going to
22 call the next series of numbers, however, I do want

23

1 to tell you that our time has passed very quickly.
2 There were many, many people who signed up. We were
3 going to end at 2:00, we'll go a little bit to 2:15
4 because we had our introductory statement but we do
5 need to bring our meeting to an end at 2:15.

6 So if those we call could speak as
7 effectively and efficiently as possible, we'll try to
8 get as many of them before 2:15. Thank you. #64
9 Michael, it looks like Whatling, #65 Quinten James,
10 #66 Gloria Leal, #67 Danny Morgan. Thank you.

11 MR. MOSKOWITZ: I am taking spot #64 for
12 Michael Whatling. My name is Richard Moskowitz. I
13 am the Vice President of the American Trucking
14 Association.

15 No matter what side of this debate you are
16 on, trucking is essential to your way of life. The
17 food that you eat the clothes that you are wearing,
18 the medicines that heal your family, are all brought
19 to you by the truck and the importance of fuel to the
20 trucking industry in the U.S. economy cannot be
21 overstated.

22 The trucking industry burns 35 billion
23

1 gallons of diesel fuel and 14 billion gallons of
2 gasoline to deliver life's essentials. Fuel is our
3 second largest expense. In 2008 when oil hit \$148
4 per barrel, 3,000 trucking companies went bankrupt.
5 Over 140,000 trucks and even more jobs were lost.

6 Now the trucking industry believes in
7 alternatives. We're looking at biofuels, we're
8 looking at natural gas, we're looking at
9 electrification, but each of these alternatives has
10 challenges associated with its use in the trucking
11 industry. They're just not quite ready to flip the
12 switch and get completely off of fossil fuels.

13 So we encourage research to overcome these
14 challenges, but we're faced with the reality that for
15 the foreseeable future, we're going to continue to
16 depend on fossil fuels to deliver life's essentials.

17 Let me turn to energy security. We import
18 51% of the crude oil in this country from foreign
19 sources. If we turn our backs on Canadian oil, we're
20 still going to demand the same amount of fuel. The
21 only difference is we're going to have to get it from
22 elsewhere, from less secure places of the globe and

1 that's going to adversely impact our energy security.

2 The ongoing crisis in the Middle East
3 should serve as a wake-up call on the need to improve
4 our domestic energy security and the Keystone XL
5 pipeline is a critical component of that
6 infrastructure to improve our energy security.

7 I want to address environmental concerns
8 briefly. The trucking industry believes in
9 environmental stewardship. We have a robust
10 sustainability plan which we go into more detail in
11 our written comments and I encourage you to read
12 them.

13 We understand that one of the primary
14 objections to the Keystone pipeline is carbon
15 emissions and I find that very strange because I
16 think there is a carbon paradox going on here. If we
17 do not build the Keystone pipeline, we're actually
18 going to increase global climate emissions and here
19 is why.

20 Canada is sitting on \$17 trillion worth of
21 oil. They're going to develop that oil whether we
22 build this pipeline or not. The only difference is,

23

1 if we build that pipeline, the oil comes to the
2 United States and it comes to the United States in a
3 way that has less carbon emissions associated with
4 it.

5 If we don't build this pipeline, it goes
6 to Vancouver by train or by truck and as much as I'd
7 like to see it go by truck, the fact of the matter is
8 that there are more carbon emissions associated with
9 those other modes of transportation than there are
10 with pipelines.

11 I see that my time is up. Thank you for
12 the opportunity to testify.

13 (Applause.)

14 MS. COLEMAN: I appreciate it. Thank you.
15 Yes.

16 MR. JAMES: Thank you. Good afternoon.
17 My name is Quinten James and I am the National
18 Director for the Sierra Student Coalition, the youth
19 arm of the Sierra Club and I am proud to join and
20 represent the over 40,000 members and supporters of
21 the Sierra Student Coalition when I say that we are
22 proudly opposed to the Keystone XL pipeline.

23

1 (Applause.)

2 I am also happy to stand here today and
3 join the National Farmers Union, the Transit Workers
4 Union and the Amalgamated Transit Union and various
5 other mayors, scientists and Nobel Peace laureates
6 when I say that we are again opposed to the Keystone
7 XL pipeline.

8 (Applause.)

9 I am here to submit testimony based on
10 three key points. The Keystone XL pipeline is not
11 the answer for American jobs. The Keystone XL
12 pipeline will not create energy security for the
13 United States and any life lost to the oil industry
14 is one life too many.

15 To my first point, the Keystone XL
16 pipeline will, according to the Cornell University
17 Global Labor Institute, only create around 6,000
18 jobs. So the claims by TransCanada and the oil
19 industry cannot be substantiated.

20 It's easier to hire a scientist and tell
21 them to get up and ramble on about facts that you
22 create, but these jobs cannot be substantiated by

23

1 real studies.

2 Based on the study, Cornell found that
3 barely 6,000 jobs will be created and although any
4 job is better than no jobs, none of us are against
5 jobs. The reality is, the State Department in its
6 own study, found that this jobs will be non-local and
7 temporary jobs.

8 I'll say that again very briefly, the
9 State Department in its own study has found that
10 these jobs that the pipeline will create will be non-
11 local, temporary jobs.

12 (Applause.)

13 Thank you. The other reality that we know
14 is that the very materials that this pipeline will be
15 made of are not even from this country. They're
16 imported from Italy and China. So thousands of
17 American jobs could have been created if TransCanada
18 decided to use American products and American
19 workers, but we know they only care about profits
20 before people.

21 (Applause.)

22 On to my second point. The Keystone XL

23

1 pipeline will not create energy security for the
2 United States. The only way to create energy
3 security for the United States is to reduce the
4 demand for oil and as the largest consumer for oil,
5 what we do impact the entire world.

6 We know that to this day, two million jobs
7 have been created by the clean energy economy and if
8 we invest in the clean energy economy we can create
9 two million more jobs. And so the answer is not to
10 permit this pipeline to be created for our security,
11 but it's actually to invest and reduce our demand on
12 oil.

13 And so lastly I want to tell a story about
14 Shane Roscoe. Shane, if he was here with us today he
15 would be 23 years old. Shane was a father, a son, a
16 husband, and a hard working American. But you see,
17 Shane woke up one day, just like every other workday,
18 he went to go work for the oil industry up the coast
19 of Louisiana but last year Shane lost his life
20 because so many people said that his at work was
21 safe.

22 So many people said his place of work was
23

1 a place where he could make a living and support his
2 family, but today we know that Shane lost his life
3 because of BP, because our government said that these
4 places are not safe.

5 And so I urge you to think about people,
6 real people that go to work everyday and who demand
7 more from us that if we would invest or permit a
8 pipeline that we would ensure that pipeline was safe.
9 Thank you very much.

10 (Applause.)

11 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you.

12 MS. LEAL: Good afternoon. My name is
13 Gloria Leal. I'm an attorney and consultant. I
14 reside in Austin, Texas and it's my pleasure to be
15 here today. Thank you for the opportunity.

16 I traveled from Texas because I thought it
17 was very important to tell you a little bit about my
18 client and who we represent.

19 We support the granting of the
20 presidential permit in support of the pipeline. I
21 represent the Texas Alliance of Energy Producers.
22 It's a Texas oil and gas association, composed of

23

1 over 3,000 members of independent producers in the
2 state.

3 Our members are small producers with fewer
4 than 10 employees but we do have about 5% that are
5 public corporations. We drill approximately over 90%
6 of the wells in Texas and the United States.

7 We do not represent pipelines marketers,
8 retailers, or major integrated companies, which is
9 mostly -- and we do not represent big oil, although
10 we do support the building and the granting of the
11 permit, with them, on this issue.

12 Pipelines are essential to our members and
13 the operations of the domestic oil and gas industry.
14 Pipelines are the purchasers, the shipper, the
15 transporter of our products, crude oil and natural
16 gas.

17 Our producers explore and drill with their
18 own monies. Pipelines are integral part of the
19 operations that allow my client, independent
20 producers, access to the market and to make sure that
21 those products are delivered to the consumers.

22 The Texas Alliance of Energy Producers

23

1 supports the pipelines. We support the creating of
2 jobs. We'll take those jobs, 300, 500, 3,000, 5,000,
3 10,000, we'll take them in Texas, okay. We support
4 our neighbor to the north, Canada, which is a stable
5 neighbor.

6 We prefer that -- the oil and gas is going
7 to be developed, we prefer that it come to Texas via
8 pipeline than go somewhere else. No one has talked
9 about the environmental factor of the oil waterborne
10 barrels and barges that would be produced if there is
11 a pipeline as opposed to coming through the Gulf
12 Coast.

13 Transportation by land -- by pipeline is
14 safer than waterborne barrels on barges and tankers.
15 We also appreciate that the TransCanada Pipeline has
16 agreed that initial construction of the pipeline, if
17 you look at that map, would be the section of the
18 line from Cushing, south to Port Arthur, Texas,
19 already started. Cushing is full and more is being
20 built. It is imperative that that bottleneck at
21 Cushing be relieved prior to the shipping of Canadian
22 crude oil into an already saturated market.

23

1 The discounted price of West Texas
2 intermediate versus Brent North Sea is evident that
3 domestic, independent have been and would be
4 adversely affected if this is not the case.

5 On a personal note, I am a Tanana from
6 South Texas, fifth generation. My father was a
7 veteran, three of my brothers were in the service, my
8 cousins are in Afghanistan and Iraq, my brother is
9 there. I do not want my brothers and sisters,
10 cousins, uncles, friends, Texans, American boys to go
11 to Iraq and Afghanistan. I support the building of
12 the pipeline from Canada to Texas. Thank you very
13 much.

14 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 MS. COLEMAN: Yes, Mr. Morgan.

17 MR. MORGAN: My name is Danny Morgan. I
18 currently serve in the Oklahoma House of
19 Representatives. I represent District 32, which also
20 takes in much of the area in Cushing, Oklahoma, which
21 is the crossroads of the pipelines in the world.

22 More pipelines cross the Cushing, Oklahoma

23

1 than anywhere else in the world and I would challenge
2 any of you to find a story of any pipeline accident
3 or catastrophe that has happened at that junction of
4 our pipelines across the country.

5 I'm here to tell you that that
6 construction will include jobs. The reason I know
7 it's going to include jobs is because I've personally
8 seen it. I can take you to the families of those who
9 are working there that not only work to build the
10 pipeline, but are still there in the maintenance and
11 operations of those pipelines.

12 But what I don't understand and listening
13 to what I've heard today, and I thank the State
14 Department for having the opportunity for us to have
15 a good vetting of this issue, is the fact that we
16 don't believe for some reason that all of these
17 energy sources can live together.

18 I would invite you to come to the State of
19 Oklahoma because the largest increase in jobs we've
20 seen in the energy sector is in the wind industry.

21 (Applause.)

22 We're building wind turbines. We're

23

1 seeing those trucks, we're seeing those electrical
2 engineers and the labor force of our labor unions
3 working to build those towers. And those are
4 "temporary jobs" that I've heard so much about.

5 Same way with this pipeline. This is an
6 opportunity for us to continue to blend a good
7 mixture for the energy needs of this country.

8 But why in the world would we say no? Why
9 would we say no to billions of dollars of investment
10 coming to this country? These aren't our dollars.
11 These aren't our tax dollars. These are foreign
12 country, Canada, saying I want to make an investment
13 in your country. Why would we say no? why would we
14 say no to the job opportunities that we see?

15 It's like us in Oklahoma saying no to the
16 wind industry, we don't want your money. It's a
17 great segment of our economy and we seen the
18 increase. I can tell you, I'm already beginning to
19 see the rail pickup in our communities from those
20 products coming in from the wind industry. And I
21 will tell you today that you will continue to see
22 rail pick up in our state because of the pipe that's

1 coming.

2 You'll continue to see an increase in the
3 construction workers with backhoes, dossiers. The
4 beauty of moving that oil is that we take it off of
5 the infrastructure. That oil is going to move and
6 it's going to move into this country.

7 Do we want to put it on the roads and
8 highways or do we want to put it in a safe pipeline
9 that's proven itself year over and year after year.
10 I would rather move it from the pipeline than
11 continue to damage the infrastructure of this
12 country.

13 Lastly I want to say this, the good thing
14 about a pipeline as well as other forms of energy,
15 including wind energy, is the excise tax that's paid
16 to the local schools, and the local counties, and the
17 local cities. That money stays there for ever.

18 That excise tax that's paid on that pipe,
19 stays in those educational institutions as long as
20 that steel is in the ground and it will be a
21 tremendous boost to our educational institutions in
22 our state and all the states along the route. Thank

23

1 you for the opportunity.

2 (Applause.)

3 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #68
4 please, Daniel Gallagher, #69, Albert Gonzalez, #70
5 Jerry Miller.

6 MR. GALLAGHER: Hello. My name is Daniel
7 Gallagher. I am the Green Party Chairman of
8 Lancaster counties Green Party. I represent 900 of
9 so of those greens in the county but also can speak
10 for 1,000 in the State of Pennsylvania and tens of
11 thousands in the country. And I would say
12 unequivocally this is -- all of these people of the
13 Greens would deny this -- would like to ask that the
14 panel deny the permit.

15 One of the advantages of going last is
16 actually to see the interaction in the room and I
17 think as prepared statements that others have
18 addressed very long, so I'll try to cut mine down to
19 really just an observation, and that is, we have what
20 I think is a manufactured conflict in this room.

21 (Applause.)

22 We have a conflict that corporations

23

1 somewhat in cahoots with our government, has said,
2 you know, let's get the people who are really working
3 and doing a great job for our country and our labor
4 unions against the people who are really thinking
5 about our environment or thinking about
6 sustainability. And we really are the same people.

7 (Applause.)

8 We are the same people and once we
9 realize that and once we can work together, I think
10 we come out of this ahead of the game. So really my
11 advice -- I kind of had two pieces of advice that I
12 thought for really the labor side and then
13 environmental side.

14 On the labor side really I thought we
15 should consider and they need to consider a little
16 bit more of the sources, you know, where is your
17 information coming from. Don't accept the claims
18 made to you just because they sound good.

19 On the other side, the environmentalists
20 tend to think we're always right. So we have to
21 accept that sometimes we are wrong, sometimes there
22 are situations and environments where people need a

23

1 job. We all need a job. So this is really a
2 manufactured conflict

3 From there, I think others have stated the
4 points very well. I think there is a term that I
5 have come across recently that expresses this concept
6 a little bit that I haven't heard yet today, and
7 that's corporate socialism. And I think really, this
8 pipeline is supporting corporate socialism where the
9 corporations are able to privatize the profits,
10 they're able to take something that should really be
11 a common good, which is oil, and take that for their
12 private profit and then have the cost of that
13 activity, namely pollution, climate change, local
14 health effects, be borne by those citizens in those
15 areas.

16 So we have privatized profits, corporate
17 costs, and I don't think that's a good situation.

18 Thank you very much.

19 (Applause.)

20 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. Mr.
21 Gonzalez.

22 MR. GONZALES: My name is Albert Gonzales.

23

1 I am the National Commander of the American GI Forum,
2 a congressionally chartered veteran's organization
3 and a lot of people have stood up here and thanked
4 the panel for allowing them to speak, I would like to
5 try to change that a little bit and thank the men and
6 women that wore the uniform that allowed democracy to
7 actually work.

8 (Applause.)

9 We have individuals on both sides of the
10 issue to be able to come and express their opinion.
11 Will we ever be able to reach unified opinion? Maybe
12 never. But I would ask you to go back maybe 10/15
13 years to China when they were building the dams on
14 the river there. Did they have an opportunity to
15 have public access to our government officials to
16 oppose their views or give their opposition? I don't
17 think so, because of the fact of the men and women
18 who wore the uniform that gives us this great
19 democracy.

20 So I want to thank those men and women,
21 not only those that serve but those that are serving
22 today and putting themselves into harm's way.

23

1 (Applause.)

2 I'm not going to argue with the General,
3 but I still think energy is vital to the country's
4 defense and it is an important part of this diverse
5 national economy.

6 Our continued dependence on oil from
7 Venezuela and the Middle East has increased energy
8 cost and volatility, contributing to high prices at
9 the fuel pumps.

10 The U.S. Department of Energy, another one
11 of our government agencies, the people who to argue
12 with that these numbers aren't correct, estimates
13 that the North American oil Keystone XL delivers will
14 allow us to reduce imports from these regions by up
15 to 40%. I see my sign is almost up.

16 Let me just say, our nation's veterans
17 deserve nothing less than good jobs and good business
18 opportunities and they are now at a disadvantage that
19 Keystone XL will help solve. Unemployment rates for
20 young veterans are substantially higher than those of
21 the general population.

22 Keystone XL will provide sufficient short,

23

1 long-term jobs and other economic opportunities for
2 those who have put their lives on the line, as well
3 as the Americans in general.

4 Do we understand the State Department's
5 basis for the decision is whether the pipeline is of
6 national interest, I say it's also national security.
7 Clearly it is reducing dependency on oil from
8 volatile regions that do not share our values,
9 increasing energy, national security, and launching a
10 shovel-ready jobs machine will provide plenty of jobs
11 for our young men and women that are returning from
12 harms way.

13 (Applause.)

14 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you very much. #70,
15 yes, please.

16 MR. MILLER: Jerry Lee Miller. I am from
17 Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Love. It's a four letter
18 word. I hope you're okay with my using it here.
19 Like many of you I have been taught to love my
20 neighbors as myself.

21 In 30 years as a pastor, I made the
22 principal of neighbor love the core, the heart of my

23

1 ethical message. I don't know if you've considered
2 love as the basis for our national interest, but if
3 you would consider it for just a moment, I'm sure you
4 will be persuaded.

5 In my ministry I've visited thousands of
6 hospital rooms where hurting people went for
7 treatment, people like you and me, subject to bodily
8 breakdown due to a host of causes known and unknown.

9 I've also conducted hundreds of funerals
10 for people whose earthly lives ended as all human
11 live does, and each here someday will. I've seen
12 each illness, each injury, and each death impacts
13 other people, those whom afflicted people live and
14 those who love them.

15 You and I suffer as individuals but our
16 suffering causes others to suffer as well and it's
17 good that we are connected in this way. Because we
18 are connected, we don't want to inflict unnecessary
19 suffering on others. we also realize it is
20 undesirable for some of us to profit at the expense
21 of others' suffering.

22 This brand of profiteering is opposite of

1 neighbor love. We all agree that it is plain wrong.

2 Love says this is injustice.

3 I'm sure you know about the immense amount
4 of money a few corporations and investors stand to
5 make from this pipeline. So do the citizens
6 currently occupying Wall Street, Freedom Plaza here
7 in DC, and a host of other U.S. locations.

8 They're out in the streets crying for
9 justice and seeking a country governed by neighbor
10 love rather than money love.

11 (Applause.)

12 Love says people over profits. I'm sure
13 you know about the suffering of indigenous peoples in
14 Alberta who've seen rare deadly diseases skyrocket
15 since the tar sands began their costly, toxic
16 extraction process. Love says, no more poisoning
17 innocent people.

18 (Applause.)

19 I'm sure you know the acceleration of
20 climate change from tar sands oil used to wreak
21 untold suffering upon the people of our nation
22 perhaps even your own loved ones and mine. The

23

1 number of billion-dollar weather disasters in the
2 U.S. this year such as flooding, fires, and tornadoes
3 are unprecedented and this trend will likely grow
4 worse.

5 Love says stop climate change while you
6 can.

7 (Applause.)

8 The likelihood of BP-type spills from
9 ruptured pipelines over the nation's heartland
10 threatens the fresh water drinking supply for 20
11 million people. Love says find a better way.

12 (Applause.)

13 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you. We can have one
14 more speaker. #71 Susan Casey Lefkowitz

15 MR. SWIFT: Susan Casey Lefkowitz ceded
16 her time to me. My name is Anthony Swift. I'm a
17 Policy Analyst with the Natural Resources Defense
18 Council. I am from a fourth generation family in the
19 oil business from West Texas and I know I speak for
20 that family when I say, when presented the choice
21 between safety and saving money, safety always comes
22 first.

23

1 However, when presented with that same
2 choice it appears TransCanada has consistently chosen
3 to save money.

4 President Obama told the American people
5 that his administration would do the necessary
6 science to ensure that Keystone XL would be operated
7 safely. His administration has not yet followed up
8 on that promise.

9 Early in its assessment of Keystone XL,
10 the State Department promised Congress that its
11 environmental review would include a study of
12 pipeline safety by regulators at the Department of
13 Transportation. No such study has ever been done.

14 TransCanada claims in a set of 57
15 conditions will address the safety risk posed by
16 Keystone XL. However, a close analysis of those
17 conditions shows that all but 12 simply reiterate
18 safety standards that are already required.

19 Moreover, recently released emails between
20 TransCanada and the State Department confirm that
21 these conditions are meant only to support a special
22 permit that would allow Keystone XL to operate at

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1 higher pressures than minimum safety standards allow.

2 TransCanada agreed to a similar set of
3 conditions for its high pressure Keystone I pipeline,
4 describing the pipeline system as one that would meet
5 or exceed world class safety and environmental
6 standards.

7 In just its first year of operation,
8 TransCanada's Keystone I pipeline had 14 leaks in the
9 United States, spilling nearly 22,000 gallons.
10 Earlier speaker wagered that that was less than we
11 all spill filling our cars in a year. I think
12 everyone in this room would take that wager.

13 (Applause and Laughter.)

14 The nation's first major tar sands spill
15 in Kalamazoo, Michigan has demonstrated that tar
16 sands spills present significant new challenges. In
17 addition to the potential of increased spill
18 frequency, an assessment of the its physical
19 properties indicate that it will behave differently
20 from conventional crude when spilled.

21 Recent experience with Enbridge's diluted
22 bitumen spill in Kalamazoo, Michigan show that

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1 cleaning these spills present significant new
2 challenges that have not yet been surmounted. After
3 Enbridge spilled approximately 966,000 gallons of tar
4 ands crude into the Kalamazoo watershed in July 2010,
5 the Environmental Protection Agency originally set a
6 two-month deadline for completing that clean-up.

7 Fourteen months later, Enbridge ha missed
8 its second deadline.

9 MS. COLEMAN: Sir, I was just going to ask
10 you if you could kind of say the final sentence
11 please.

12 MR. SWIFT: Certainly. The Obama
13 administration is not done the science to evaluate
14 the risk these pipelines pose and moving forward on
15 Keystone XL without more due diligence, puts the
16 communities, water, and environmental resources of
17 the United States at unnecessary risk.

18 (Applause.)

19 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you. Ladies and
20 gentlemen, we regret that the time was passed so
21 quickly and we haven't had a chance to hear from all
22 of you, so we want to reiterate that we welcome your

23

1 comments and you've got your forms, fax, and at the
2 back table they will accept them and tell you how
3 else to do it.

4 And I just also want to say for myself
5 that it was a privilege to be here and hear all of
6 these opinions and done in a very respectful and
7 excellent way and its great example of American
8 democracy. Thank you very much.

9 (Applause.)

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